REV. SEAN CRONIN

DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 2013
PURSUANT TO JCCP 4286 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Vicar for Clergy Database

Clergy Assignment Record (Detailed)



Mr Sean Cronin

5000 Arundel Drive
Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Current Primary Assignment

Birth Date	10/26/1943	*Age:*	69
Birth Place	Macroom, County Cork, Ireland	*Deanery:*	22
Diaconate Ordination	10/7/1967		
Priesthood Ordination	9/8/1973		
Diocese Name	Archdiocese of Los Angeles		
Date of Incardination	6/13/1973		
Religious Community			
Ritual Ascription	Latin		
Ministry Status	To Lay State		
Canon State	Diocesan Priest	*Incard Process*	☐
Begin Pension Date	9/8/1973		
Cell phone	(818) 337-8834		
Seminary	Holy Cross College, Dublin, Ireland		
Ethnicity	Irish		

Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training

Date Background Check

Virtus Training Date

Assignment History

Assignment	***Beginning Date***	***Completion Date***
Returned To Lay State, Rescript from the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith Prot N. 782/2004	1/26/2011	
Administrative Leave	7/13/2004	1/26/2011
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Northridge Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service, Original term was from 10/1/2000 to 6/30/2005.	10/1/2000	7/13/2004
Sick Leave	2/10/2000	9/30/2000
Sabbatical, Oxford	1/1/1991	1/1/1992
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Catholic Church, Lomita Resident, Active Service	7/6/1988	2/9/2000
SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Wilmington Resident, Resident	10/1/1984	7/5/1988

Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes Chaplain, Active Service, Also faculty	9/1/1984	2/9/2000
St. Helen Catholic Church, South Gate Resident, Resident	10/18/1982	9/30/1984
St. Michael High School, Los Angeles Education-Teacher/Faculty, Active Service	7/10/1979	8/31/1984
St. Michael Catholic Church, Los Angeles Resident, Resident	7/10/1979	10/17/1982
St. Monica High School, Santa Monica Education-Teacher/Faculty, Active Service	7/1/1977	7/9/1979
St. Monica Catholic Church, Santa Monica Resident, Resident	7/1/1977	7/7/1979
St. Andrew Catholic Church, Pasadena Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	12/27/1975	6/30/1977
St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Panorama City Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	9/8/1973	12/26/1975
St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Panorama City Deacon, Active Service	9/5/1972	9/7/1973

REDACTED

From: Loomis, Msgr. Richard A.
Sent: Friday, December 10, 1999 4:53 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: RE: Letter to Father Sean Cronin

I called Fr. Cronin and left a message on his voice mail with the orrect address and phone number..

-----Original Message-----
From: REDACTED
Sent: Friday, December 10, 1999 4:30 PM
To: Loomis, Msgr. Richard A.
Subject: Letter to Father Sean Cronin

Monsignor,

I just noticed that the address and telephone number listed on your letter to Father Cronin is an old address. Dr. REDACTED moved recently. Her new address and telephone number are as follows: REDACTED
REDACTED REDACTED
REDACTED

ST. MARGARET MARY CHURCH
25511 ESHELMAN AVE.
LOMITA, CA 90717

4. I. 2000

Dear Cardinal Mahony,

I got your kind letter on Christmas eve on my way to celebrating the 4.15 [illegible]. Deo Gratias!

Thank you very much indeed for your consideration in granting me a Sabbatical. I have just got back from Valyermo and during Spiritual Retreat REDACTED spoke with [illegible] and others. I have called REDACTED but he's not in — so his secretary took the message. As I indicated to REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED I will be out of the country until the end of Jan. So I can take it up with REDACTED then.

I wish you every blessing for the third Millennium. May the Lord bless and keep you. As always gratefully in Christ Sean [illegible]

53210

REDACTED

To: REDACTED
Subject: RE: Misconduct

Dear REDACTED
Peace and thank you for your response. Detective REDACTED will give you, your rights and the consequences for the perpetrator. It is so important to protect children first. The priest involved in your incident needs help. He like any citizen is under the same laws as all of us are regarding children and vulnerable adults. Priests have had education over the last 15 years regarding right relationships and observing boundaries. I am sorry for the emotional pain and stress you are experiencing. It is not easy to come forward. However, it is important for the safety of children. I believe that you have rights regarding confidentiality that are observed by the diocese and the law enforcement agency. My prayers are with you and your family at this time.
Sincerely,
REDACTED REDACTED

-----Original Message-----
From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2002 11:24 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: Misconduct

Dear REDACTED REDACTED
Thank you for getting back to me. I've forwarded my allegations to Detective REDACTED as you suggested. I would rather not make this a police matter. I certainly would not any legal action taken against this man because I honestly feel this is a matter for the church and he should be diciplined accordingly. The misconduct occured 20 years ago and has been a burden for me. I'm very concerned for my privacy and certainly would not want my family involved in any way. If I was to go forward with a police report, what would happen to the priest in question ???

REDACTED

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: http://messenger.msn.com

e mail want to tell his story.

183081

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2002 11:24 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: Misconduct

Dear REDACTEDREDACTED
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REDACTED

183080

(208)

REDACTED

To: REDACTED
Subject: RE: Misconduct

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REDACTED

183079

Closed 6/7/07

File:
Fr Cronin

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2002 11:26 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: Misconduct

COPY

Dear REDACTED REDACTED
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REDACTED

Respond Current policy. Report made

- birth date
- age at time of abuse

1.) Matter investigated
- Name of Priest & name of victim
- Place of incident(s) specific city, Church, other
- Month/year of incident(s)
- Type of sexual abuse
- Report given to Vicar for Clergy

Others who may know of the abuse

2.) Priest is told of the allegation (report)
- Process of alleged Clergy misconduct is followed:
- Psy eval
- Records checked for

183078

Last Cronin Title Rev. First Sean Middle
Birthplace Ireland County Cork Year 1943 DOB 10/26/43 Age 60
Ordained 73 Seminary Holy Cross, Dublin, Ireland
Order Incardinated X Diocese
Diocesan X Religious Living/Working Inactive Rite
Institution Our Lady of Lourdes Church Assigned 00
Address1 18405 Superior St. Address2
City Northridge State CA Zip 91325-1798 Country
Home REDACTED Work Private FAX(818) 349-2516
Status Associate
Comment

Date Entered 10/02/2000 Date Assigned 10/01/2000
Deanery 5 Title3 Father Title4(Dean) T5 Salutation Sean
Will X Retired in Rectory C X SS# REDACTED P.P. X General Mail X

Appointments

St. Genevieve, Van Nuys - 09/08/73
St. Andrew, Pasadena - Associate 12/27/75
St. Monica, Santa Monica - Associate 07/01/77
St. Monica High School, Santa Monica - Faculty 07/01/77
St. Michael , Los Angeles - Residence 07/10/79
St. Michael High School, Los Angeles - Faculty 07/10/79
St. Helen, South Gate - Residence 10/18/82
SS. Peter & Paul, Wilmington - Residence 09/01/84
Marymount College, Palos Verdes - Chaplain/Faculty 09/01/84
St. Margaret Mary, Lomita - Residence 07/06/88
Sabbatical 1991 - 1992 Academic Year
Sick Leave - 02/10/2000 - 09/30/2000
Our Lady of Lourdes, Northridge - Associate 10/01/2000

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 7 January 2003

I spoke with Father Cronin today to inform him that his name had been listed among a group of alleged perpetrators of sexual misconduct with minors prepared by attorneys for prospective plaintiffs. The sketchy information points to an allegation related to his time at St. Genevieve's, which was from 1973 – 1975, his first assignment after ordination.

The only complaint the Archdiocese has was related to boundary crossings during his tenure at [redacted] but noting related to St. Genevieve's. Father Cronin indicated that he had engaged in no misconduct. He will be taking a vacation in a few days, and be out of the diocese for a few weeks. I asked him to leave with his pastor a way to contact him while on vacation, and he promised that he would.

REDACTED ED

Blue Cross pd. $144.75
Archdiocese pd. 565.75
$710.50

EDACTED

10/15/02

PS
You already have copy of check and BC (EOB).

53188

CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED
INTERVIEW REPORT
ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

INTERVIEW OF REDACTED
REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

On 1/12/04REDACTED Canonical Auditor interviewedREDACTED in his rectory at [redacted]church, where he is pastor, [redacted] CA, phone REDACTED He supplied the following information:

REDACTED stated he had been informed by REDACTED that he would be interviewed regarding his knowledge of Fr. Sean Cronin.

He and Cronin were residents at St. Monica's in or around 1980, but they lived in separate buildings. REDACTED resided in an annex building at the parish but worked daily at the Chancellery in Los Angeles. Cronin lived in the rectory and taught at the high school. He had only limited contact with Cronin, usually at meal time. He reiterated that he has never had a reason to question Cronin's integrity or moral character and never had an indication that he may have been involved in child abuse.

He provided the names of three priests, including the pastor, all deceased who were present when Cronin was at St. Monica's. He statedREDACTED (phonetic) whom he believes is retired in Bellflower, CA was present with Cronin at St. Monica's. REDACTEIREDACTED REDACTED was principal of the high school when Cronin was a teacher there. **Note: The 2004 L.A. Archdiocese directory has no listings for Fr.**REDACTED **or**REDACTEDREDACTED

Statement for Weekend Masses at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Northridge
January 31 – February 1, 2004
Regarding Reverend Sean Cronin

I am REDACTED REDACTED here in the San Fernando Region. Our Archbishop, Cardinal Roger Mahony, has asked that I make an important announcement here at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish this weekend.

As you know from news reports, many lawsuits seeking monetary damages were filed in the month of December that allege sexual abuse of minors on the part of different priests, brothers, nuns and laypersons working for the Church. These filings are public records, available to the media and to any other person who wishes to obtain the information.

You probably are not aware that your Associate Pastor, Reverend Sean Cronin, was named as a defendant in two of these lawsuits. We expect that there may be news reports referring to this lawsuit in the coming weeks. Both the cardinal and Father Cronin wanted you to learn this information from us first rather than through secular news sources.

The alleged incidents relate to the period of approximately 1972 – 1980 when Father Cronin was serving at St. Genevieve's and St. Monica's parishes and schools. Up to this point, however, the complainants have not come forward to speak with us. As part of the court-ordered mediation process, complainants are to submit written responses to questions so that the Archdiocese would have some specific information about the nature of the claims. The complainants against Father Cronin have not yet done so. Thus, up to the present, the information available to us has been hearsay in nature and without the kind of detail that would enable the Archdiocese to conduct a thorough investigation, or to enable Father Cronin to present a reasonable defense.

When informed of the prospective lawsuit, Father Cronin firmly denied any sexually abusive conduct with the persons who filed the lawsuits or with any minor.

Our Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board, consisting of thirteen persons, eleven of whom are lay people, has the case of Father Cronin under consideration and has made recommendations for further investigation that are being actively pursued. As of its most recent meeting last Wednesday, however, the Board has not recommended that Father Cronin be placed on administrative leave. Up to this point, the limited nature of information has not provided sufficient credible evidence to justify placing him on leave.

Cardinal Mahony is committed to assuring that children and young people are safe. He has firmly pledged that, when it is determined that a priest has engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor, he will be permanently removed from ministry. That pledge has been implemented. The fact that a lawsuit has been filed, however, does not mean that Father Cronin has acted in an abusive fashion. All people, priests included, must be presumed innocent until there is proof to the contrary. At the same time, the Church takes allegations of this sort seriously -- precisely because we want to uncover the full truth and then act in accord with the truth. After all, Jesus himself stated that it is the truth that sets us free. Therefore, we will continue to seek all available information.

We also will continue to keep you informed of developments. Finally, I ask that you please pray for everyone involved -- people who have been harmed by sexual abuse, priests, and those conducting the investigations. Thank you for you kind attention. May God bless you!

183007

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183008

2

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2241

TO: Presbyterate of the Archdiocese

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox, Vicar for Clergy

RE: Priests in Active Service Named in Lawsuits

DATE: 1 February 2004

My brothers,

As you know, many lawsuits were filed in the month of December alleging sexual abuse of minors on the part of priests, brothers, religious and others working for the Church. These filings are public records, available to the media and to any other person who wishes to obtain the information. Being named in a lawsuit, however, is not of itself proof of misconduct. Therefore, among those named are a number of priests who, for many different and weighty reasons, continue in their assignments and remain in good standing.

After intense consultations that involved these priests, the Council of Priests, as well as others, we concluded that the best course of action was for us to inform the parishioners of the parishes where these priests continue to serve that their priest had been named in a lawsuit. We concluded that being open and bringing accurate information directly to our parishioners was wise and necessary. This was a painful decision, especially for the priests involved.

Therefore, I wanted to inform you that over the last several weekends, announcements were made in the parishes where these priests continue to serve. At this difficult moment, and with the consent of those listed, I want to communicate to you the names of these brother priests. They areREDACTED Father Sean Cronin, REDACTED
REDACTED

I ask that you please keep them in your prayers as they deal with the allegations made in these lawsuits. Clearly, supporting one another in our Presbyterate is not at odds with having a profound empathy for those who were harmed by the evil of sexual abuse, especially those who were abused by a priest. Thus, I ask that you keep all victims of sexual abuse in your daily prayer. Thank you.

183006

Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

To: REDACTED

Subject: RE: Father Sean Cronin

Thank you for your message. I invited you to call to arrange an appointment to meet with our investigator. That is the appropriate step that is necessary for us to make any responsible decisino with regard to Fr. Cronin. Please phoneREDACTED eithe rin care of my office REDACTED . .) or directly at REDACTED

Thank you.

Msgr. Craig A. Cox

-----Original Message-----
From: REDACTED
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2004 3:00 AM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Father Sean Cronin

Dear Msgr. Cox,

You can imagine my shock and horror when I read the article in The LA Times about the ten accused priests still in active ministry and saw the picture of Sean Cronin. I was also pleased to read yesterday that as a result of the article another person came forward about Msgr. [redacted] and he was removed from ministry. My question to you is, why is Sean Cronin still in active ministery ??? There are two very credible allegations against him also !!! I am insulted and confused. Where is the justice and healing the Church has been talking about ???

Please inform the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board that there is detailed and credible evidence against Sean Cronin. Have them contactREDACTED
REDACTED

Msgr. Cox, you must do the right thing and have Sean Cronin removed from active ministry immediately. He is a sexual predator who has manipulated his power as a man of God for sexual gratification. Don't wait until February 27th for the official report to be released. Be a man of honor and help us heal the wounds caused by Sean Cronin.

Thank you.

183003

Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

From: REDACTED
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2004 11:25 PM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: RE: Father Sean Cronin

Dear Msgr. Cox

My attorney has told me not to talk to anybody from the Archdiocese at this time. I'm confident I will be able to speak freely at the appropriate time and the appropriate place and give a detailed account of the sexual abuse I suffered as a teenager by Father Sean Cronin.

Thank you.

----- Original Message -----
From: Cox Msgr. Craig A. <MsgrCACox@la-archdiocese.org>
To:REDACTED
Sent: 17 Feb 04, 8:48 AM
Subject: RE: Father Sean Cronin

Thank you for your message. I invited you to call to arrange an appointment to meet with our investigator. That is the appropriate step that is necessary for us to make any responsible decisino with regard to Fr. Cronin. Please phone REDACTED eithe rin care of my office REDACTED or directly at REDACTED

Thank you.

Msgr. Craig A. Cox

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Please inform the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board that there is detailed and credible evidence against Sean Cronin. Have them contact REDACTED in Beverly Hills. The number is REDACTED

183001

REDACTED :, you must do the right thing and have Sean Cronin removed from active ministry immediately. He is a sexual predator who has manipulated his power as a man of God for sexual gratification. Don't wait until February 27th for the official report to be released. Be a man of honor and help us heal the wounds caused by Sean Cronin.

Thank you.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of the Archbishop

3424 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles California 90010-2202

March 23, 2004

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Father Cronin:

REDACTED asked that I forward the enclosed message to you. We are still trying to arrange a formal interview with him so that we can hear his complaint first hand. Up to this point, he indicates that his attorney has advised him against such a meeting.

Should you wish to provide me any response to the message of REDACTED, you may do so in writing or by contacting me to arrange for an appointment.

You continue to be in my prayers. May this season of Lent be a time of renewal for you.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

182997

Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

From: REDACTED
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2004 6:41 AM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Fwd: My pain

Forward this to Father Sean Cronin.

REDACTED

Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2004 06:23:49 -0800 (PST)
From: REDACTED
Subject: My pain
To: drcronin@hotmail.com

Father Cronin,

I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine.

I warned you twenty four years ago to stay away from me. Remember that phone call ??? I also told you that you were very lucky I didn't go to my father, the church, or the police. You took advantage of my trust in you at a time when I was very vulnerable. You knew the circumstances surrounding my profound sadness from my parents divorce and the confusion I felt. I came to you for spiritual guidance and support. That's what my father always told me to do. He told me I could and should go to a priest.

You know what happened. You know that you were grooming me for sex.

Let me refresh your memory. Remember the dinners at the Azteca Restaurant ??? Remember ordering drinks for both of us ??? Remember kissing me on the lips and telling me that it wasn't unusual behavior with men in European cultures ??? Remember asking me about how often I masturbated ??? Remember telling me that you also masturbated ??? Remember the foreign film that we saw together in Santa Monica that you insisted I see ??? Remember the homosexual sex scenes ??? Remember how interested you were in my sex life with my girlfriend ??? Remember telling me that I shouldn't tell anybody else what we talk about ??? That they might not understand ??? Remember the Cognac we drank together at your residence ??? Remember asking to see the birthmark on my penis ??? Remember, remember, remember !!!

Father Cronin, my memory is very clear. How's yours ???

You can imagine how devastated I was when I read you had denied the allegations. Do you realize what that's done to me ??? Do you realize what it's done to my wife and children ??? Yes, I have REDACTED absolutely beautiful children who wonder why their father is so sad. They wonder why their father has become so angry. They wonder why he can't sleep at night. They wonder, Father Cronin, they wonder.

You owe it to me, my children, the church and yourself to tell the truth. Stop being the source of

so many people's pain. You are an extremely selfish man. You're only interested in saving yourself and your reputation.

God will be your judge, Father Cronin. You must save yourself.

Tell your attorney no more denials. No more lying. No more hurting.

Please.

REDACTED

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Search - Find what you're looking for faster.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

April 2, 2004

Personal

REDACTED

Dear REDACTED

Cardinal Roger Mahony has asked that I reply to your kind letter of February 9, 2004. I regret that the press of other responsibilities delayed my ability to write you.

We very much appreciate your wise words reflecting on the importance of handling accusations in a measured, deliberative manner that respects the rights of all concerned. Please pray that we can do this wisely and well.

Father Cronin is fortunate to have friends like you. Please continue to keep him in your prayer at this difficult time.

May the appreciating days of Holy Week and of Easter be full of many blessings for you and your family.

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

182995

REDACTED

February 9, 2004

His Eminence Cardinal Roger Mahoney
Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010

Dear Cardinal Mahoney:

At this very difficult time for you and our church, I wish to commend you for the courageous stand you have taken regarding the most recent revelations of priests who supposedly engaged in inappropriate conduct.

When the original accusations were revealed months ago showing a widespread pattern of abuse, national in scope, I was as appalled and disgusted as everyone else. It soon became clear that, while there were certainly valid cases of abuse, the behavior was not of the scope and depth being presented by the media. The "zero tolerance" policy seemed a knee jerk reaction at best and not well thought out. Now it seems that the process has turned into a witch-hunt, reminiscent of the McMartin hysteria.

The Los Angeles Times makes it sound as though you are harboring and protecting criminals. My family and I have personally known one of the priests pictured and referenced in Saturday's paper, Father Sean Cronin. He has been priest and friend to us for over 20 years. There is no way, absolutely no way, he would be guilty of any wrongdoing. He is the finest of men and a committed priest who has dedicated his life in service to God and mankind. His friends and supporters are boundless. Seeing him pictured in such a context broke my heart and brought home to me just how many other innocent men are being falsely accused.

One of the lawyers quoted in the Times article stated that accusing these men should be enough to remove them from their duties. Whatever happened to the principle of "innocent until proven guilty"?

In reviewing these recent accusations against these priests it appears they are alleged to have done random or isolated acts of molestation, sometimes over 20 years ago. This doesn't seem to fit the pattern of a pedophile. I am very grateful that you have evaluated these cases on their merits, or lack thereof, and have seen fit to support these priests until they are actually proven guilty. To do otherwise would destroy the careers of fine men and forever tarnish all the good they have accomplished.

In a society that emphasizes hugs and warm, one on one communication, we are condemning our priest to a very lonely existence. For them, every hug or pat on the head can now be misinterpreted. Of course, there is also the possibility of greed that is ultimately behind these accusations.

In any case, I thank God for your wisdom and fairness and I pray He will continue to guide and sustain you during this very difficult time.

Sincerely yours, REDACTED

REDACTED

182996

INTERVIEW OF REDACTED REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

On April 16, 2004, after properly identifying himself as a Canonical Investigator for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, REDACTED interviewed REDACTED regarding his association and knowledge of Father Sean Cronin. The interview was conducted at the law offices of REDACTED in the presence of REDACTED attorney REDACTED who audio recorded the entire interview.

REDACTED provided personal identifying information as follows:

Name: REDACTED
Date of Birth:
Place of Birth:
Marital Status:
Family:
Education:
Address:
Local contact: May be contacted through REDACTED
REDACTED
Occupation: REDACTED
Employer:
Employment Status: [redacted]

REDACTED supplied the following information regarding his relationship with Father Sean Cronin:

He was in his senior year and seventeen years of age at St. Monica's High School in 1979 when he first saw Fr. Cronin who was a teacher. He did not have any classes with Cronin. He met Cronin personally for the first time when Cronin was the retreat master of a St. Monica's student retreat held at the Presbyterian Conference Grounds at Pacific Palisades, CA. He could not recall the exact date of the retreat, but it was during the week, possibly early in the school year. Cronin had ended a retreat session and directed the students to walk around the grounds as a form of meditation. While he was walking Cronin approached him and they started a conversation. He told Cronin about his family situation. He explained that his mother had left the family when he was younger and his father age 59 had remarried to a women REDACTED
REDACTED He immediately noticed that Cronin, who insisted that he be called Sean, was easy to talk to. The conversation was fairly brief and Cronin suggested that after the retreat, they meet after school for counseling.

Very soon after the retreat, exact time unrecalled, he saw Cronin at school and they made an after-school appointment to meet, perhaps during that week in Cronin's office located on the campus or possibly on parish grounds. He cannot recall the exact building in

which the office was located, or the physical layout of the office except it was very small. There were chairs in the office and he believes there was a desk. He has no recollection of the color of the walls, location of windows or any other identifying characteristics including wall-hangings, photos or paintings. He is not certain if it was Cronin's private office, or if it was shared with another person. He does not remember exactly what the conversion of the first meeting included, which lasted about one hour, but is certain they again discussed his father's remarriage and his stepmothers' problems. They had several more after-school meetings in the same office and he could not estimate the number of times they met, but thinks it was usually about once a week. He is certain he was observed going to and possibly meeting in Cronin's office and he told his friends he was meeting with Cronin. Though many of his friends made jokes about Cronin being effeminate and possibly "gay", most knew his family situation and believed Cronin was counseling him. The after-school meetings were later held in Cronin's residence room located on the parish grounds. He is certain Cronin suggested meeting in his residence, but does not remember the reason Cronin gave for changing the location. He cannot recall the exact location on the grounds, or any physical description whatsoever of Cronin's room except that it had comfortable chairs. He does not remember ever seeing anyone when going into the building which housed Cronin's room, and does not recall he had the feeling Cronin should not be bringing him into his room, but remembers that Cronin closed the door during the meetings.

The hourly meetings, in Cronin's room continued weekly for approximately three to four weeks and he noticed they were starting to discuss sexual issues more frequently. Cronin started asking extremely personal questions regarding his sex life, such as, if and how often he masturbated, if he climaxed and details about sex acts with his girlfriend. The questions did not seem to tie into the topic being discussed and he thought they were odd. He answered them because he trusted Cronin who was a priest with a PhD and knowledge of psychology. Also, believed Cronin was trying to help him with his problems. Around this time he received a phone call at home from Cronin who offered to come to his home and take him out to dinner. He agreed and Cronin came and met his father who was a devout Catholic with great trust in priests. Also, like Cronin, his father was REDACTED Cronin and his father became friends, but socialized only when Cronin came to his house. Thereafter his father strongly encouraged his relationship with Cronin.

Every time Cronin came to take him out to dinner which was approximately once a week, most of his senior year and into the summer following graduation when their relationship ended, they always went alone only to the Azetca Mexican restaurant on Lincoln Blvd, just south of Rose Street in Venice, CA. Cronin drove a "fairly new" non-descript cream color Chevrolet Nova. Cronin knew the people who owned the restaurant and seemed to be a regular customer as he also knew many of the other patrons. The daughter of the owner who was usually working at the restaurant was also a student at St. Monica's High School, but he is unsure of her name. Every time they went to the Azteca Cronin ordered alcoholic drinks for both of them, usually Margaritas before and during dinner and they sat at a fairly secluded table where it was not so obvious that a seventeen year old person

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was being served alcohol. By the time they left the restaurant he would usually feel intoxicated.

After dinner, usually about 8:00 P.M. when it was dark, Cronin drove them to his residence at St Monica's. The building in which Cronin's room was located and the surrounding area always seemed to be deserted. He does not recall ever seeing another person in or around the building. As during the day time meetings in his room, Cronin closed the door, and possibly locked it. At each evening meeting Cronin would open a bottle of Cognac and they both would drink, while Cronin would instruct him in the art of holding and drinking from a snifter. They would continue their conversation which included his family problems, but as the meetings progressed Cronin's near obsession with sexual discussions usually became the main topic. Cronin would talk at length about the Freudian concepts of the division of the mind, the Id, Ego, Superego and sexual energy. Sometimes it was as if Cronin was talking to himself and he would ramble on about Freud and the psycho-sexual stages. Up to this point the only physical contact they had was a friendly and acceptable hug. At one of the earlier evening meetings in his residence Cronin approached him from the front, held him by the shoulders and gazed up into his eyes and kissed him on the cheek. He was embarrassed and confused, but did not react to Cronin in a negative way. Usually the meetings would last until about 11:00 P.M. when Cronin would drive him home. Upon arrival, his house was dark and his family was asleep. His father never said anything to him about being out so late.

One day he received a phone call at home from Cronin who asked if he would go to a foreign sub-titled movie with him, the name of which he cannot recall. He agreed and they went to the Monica One or Monica Two, a New-Art type theater located on 2nd or 3rd Street in Santa Monica. On the way to the movie Cronin told him the main character was a teenaged male named Detlev who was having trouble addressing his possible homosexuality. Cronin told him to pay particular attention to a scene where teenage male prostitutes took out their penises to see which was largest. When they were watching the movie and this scene started, Cronin looked over at him and said something to the effect "…this is the scene I was telling you about." The movie continued and in one scene an older man was having anal sex with Detlev and kept screaming his name during the act. REDACTED was confused and disgusted and couldn't understand why Cronin insisted that he see the movie, but again, he believed Cronin the PhD and the priest whom he trusted, was trying to help him.

The movie was a turning point in their relationship. He began to overcome his naiveté and started to believe that Cronin was a homosexual. His friends continued to make jokes about Cronin being effeminate and he noticed Cronin was always around the boys and did not seem to be interested in the girls. At the time his girl friend, REDACTED told him she was uncomfortable that he was spending so much time with Cronin. In early March or April, 2004 he received an e-mail from REDACTED who was given his e-mail address by REDACTED brother. He said that REDACTED has never married and lives in the Los Angeles area. He provided her e-mail address which is REDACTED and has no objection to her being contacted by the investigator. He also provided the name of REDACTED a high school friend, now living in Venice, CA who also knew Cronin and

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later traveled with Cronin to Africa. He talked to REDACTED in August of 2002 who was surprised that Cronin's picture was in the L.A. Times regarding the L.A. Archdiocese child molestation scandal. REDACTED told him he was never molested by Cronin. He said he will make REDACTED's phone number available to the investigator.

Once while running at Venice Beach he observed Cronin sitting alone on the sand reading. He approached Cronin and talked to him for a few minutes and while continuing down the beach, he realized Cronin was sitting in an area frequented by homosexuals.

After the movie incident, the diners and evening meetings and Cronin holding him; gazing into his eyes and kissing him on the cheek continued. At one meeting Cronin told him that he loved him and would never leave him like his mother did. As the meetings continued he told Cronin that he was worried about REDACTED
REDACTED
REDACTED Cronin told him to REDACTED
REDACTED residue would settle in his gentiles and would effect his sperm production, but he kept buying him drinks at dinner and giving him cognac in the evenings about once a week. At no time did Cronin REDACTED other than alcohol.

He said his use of REDACTED and alcohol became a problem and he has gone through 1 REDACTED
REDACTED rehabilitation programs in his life, REDACTED ı member of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Approximately May or June of 1980 Cronin was transferred to St. Michael parish and was very upset stating that he had been sent to the ghetto. Cronin continued to pick him up about once a week for dinner and drinks at Azteca's and would drive him to his new residence at St. Michael's. He has no recollection of the physical layout at St. Michael as he only was there at night, but remembers it was in a poor area and recalls driving into a gated lot. They would enter a building he assumed was on the parish grounds. The only thing he remembers about Cronin's room is that it contained two comfortable chairs facing each other that reminded him of the setting in a psychological therapist office. They would talk and drink cognac. At approximately the second or third meeting at St. Michael's, Cronin gazed into his eyes and kissed him on the mouth, not in what is considered the French style of kissing by extending the tongue. He recalls feeling Cronin's beard on his face. Cronin noticed that the kiss on the mouth surprised REDACTED and tried to explain that there was nothing wrong with men kissing and that it was common practice in Europe. He became scared and even though did not know exactly where he was or how to get away, he tried to make a plan of escape as he thought Cronin was going to rape him. Nothing more happened and Cronin who appeared to be intoxicated drove him home.

At this point Cronin started coming to his house unannounced, usually after going to the beach. On a few occasions he avoided Cronin by not going in the house until he would see Cronin leave. He tried to make excuses for not going with Cronin, but his father who thought this relationship with a priest was good for him, insisted that he go with Cronin.

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During the last meeting at St. Michael's Cronin once again manipulated the discussion towards sex. In an earlier conversation he had told Cronin that he had a birthmark on his penis. Cronin mentioned that conversation and asked to see REDACTED ' penis. He became very scared and was certain that if he exposed his penis, Cronin would have tried to engage in a sex act. He refused, became angry and Cronin complied with his order to take him home immediately.

The next day he telephoned Cronin and said he never wanted to see Cronin again and that if Cronin ever called him called again he would tell the police and church authorities and his father about what Cronin did to him. Cronin did not call him or attempt to contact him again.

Later that summer when his REDACTED became a problem his father called Cronin and took his suggestion to place REDACTED REDACTED St. John's hospital in Santa Monica. He is not sure, but thinks Cronin may have visited him in the hospital and gave him some Christian books.

He now believes that Cronin thought he (REDACTED) was a homosexual and was trying to convince him of that fact. He knew all along that he was heterosexual but his relationship with Cronin caused him great confusion about his sexuality.

In September 2002 he called the L.A. Archdiocese from REDACTED and was given an e-mail address for Sister REDACTED and e-mailed the details of his relationship with Cronin. She replied and provided the names of Los Angeles Police Department detective REDACTED . He communicated with REDACTED who took his complaint and stated there were no other complaints against Cronin. He was not pleased with the response from REDACTED and wanted a response from the Archdiocese. On St. Monica's website he noticed that REDACTED REDACTED who he recalled from his high school days was still there and sent him an anonymous e-mail. He later received an e-mail reply from Msg. Craig Cox of the L.A. Archdiocese and was not pleased with the response. He then visited the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests website, which gave the names of three law firms and ultimately contacted his current attorney.

<u>Addendum:</u> May 4, 2004

Attached hereto are copies of e-mails dated May 1, and May 2, 2004 from REDACTED to his attorney REDACTED and REDACTED These documents contain a few additions and some clarification to information REDACTED supplied in the April 16, 2004 interview. In addition, one of the e-mail messages supplies the address and telephone number for REDACTED.

182994

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
To:
Sent: Saturday, May 01, 2004 7:24 AM
Subject: Fwd: My Interview, some changes

REDACTED
wrote:

> Date: Thu, 29 Apr 2004 18:23:42 -0700 (PDT)
> FromREDACTED
> Subject: My Interview, some changes
> To: REDACTED

REDACTED

> A few changes I would like to make.
>
> I only have a High School diploma.
>
> My Father was 56 when he married my Step Mother , age 29.
>
> Cronin's car might have been a Chevy Malibu, or Nova.
>
> 182988
>
> I said he knew the staff of the Azteca, not the patrons.
>
> We always had a Cognac and Flan (mexican dessert) after dinner. They even poured Cognac on the Flan and lit it with a lighter.
>
> I'm not sure it was the gang of " male prostitutes " that took out their penises to see which was the largest. It might have been some of his (Detlev's) friends.
>
> Sean Cronin had also asked me to go to Africa with him which I said no to. There was no way. I knew he would try something then.
>
> After repeated questions about how often I masturbated, how often I climaxed, I then turned the question around on him. I asked him if he

masturbated. He said " yes, but that I was never to tell anybody he had told me that. " In fact, he told me I " shouldn't tell anybody what we discuss during our meetings ".

It was I that was upset when Cronin was transfered to St. Michaels. By that point I had become dependent on him and his " guidance ".

I forwarded the telephone number of REDACTED to you.

Other than that, it looks pretty good. Those are the facts to the best of my recollection.

Thanks,

REDACTED

Do you Yahoo!?
Win a $20,000 Career Makeover at Yahoo! HotJobs

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
To:
Sent: Saturday, May 01, 2004 7:26 AM
Subject: Fwd: Re: Class of 1979

REDACTED wrote:

Date: Fri, 05 Mar 2004 15:17:13 -0800
Subject: Re: Class of 1979
To: REDACTED
From: REDACTED

REDACTED
,

REDACTED current address is REDACTED . His phone
number is REDACTED . He called me back with a correct phone number.

Hope that helps! REDACTED

* * * * * * * * * *
REDACTED

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
To: REDACTED
Sent: Sunday, May 02, 2004 8:11 AM
Subject: Fwd: Correction

REDACTED · wrote:

> Date: Thu, 29 Apr 2004 21:49:11 -0700 (PDT)
> From: REDACTED
> Subject: Correction
> To: REDACTED

REDACTED

> Sorry, one last thing. After Sean Cronin kissed me on the mouth he did try several times after that to kiss me on the mouth. I would always turn my head and he would usually get me on the cheek.
>
> That's it. I just want to be accurate.
>
> REDACTED
>
> ---
>
>

Do you Yahoo!?
Win a $20,000 Career Makeover at Yahoo! HotJobs

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
To:
Sent: Sunday, May 02, 2004 8:12 AM
Subject: Fwd: One last correction

REDACTED wrote:

> Date: Thu, 29 Apr 2004 21:41:35 -0700 (PDT)
> From: REDACTED
> Subject: One last correction
> To: REDACTED
>
> REDACTED
>
> I talked to REDACTED recently, maybe three or four months ago. Not in 2002.
>
> Thanks,
>
> REDACTED
>
>

Do you Yahoo!?
Win a $20,000 Career Makeover at Yahoo! HotJobs

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
To: REDACTED
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2004 11:24 AM
Attach: DioceseLA-REDACTED interview sent to REDACTED March-4.19.04.doc
Subject: Fw: Interview Of REDACTED

REDACTED

I have received the additions and clarifications from REDACTED and have attached them to his interview report.

As I have mentioned in the phone messages I have left for you, we are very interested in interviewing REDACTED at your and his earliest convenience.

We are very appreciative of your assistance in these matters.
Sincerely,
REDACTED

----- Original Message -----
From: REDACTED
To: REDACTED
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2004 11:52 AM
Subject: Interview Of REDACTED

> REDACTED
> Attached is my written report of REDACTED interview.
>
> I would appreciated it if you both would review it and return it to me at
> REDACTED as soon as possible.
> Under "Education:" I showed REDACTED with a H.S. diploma, if he has further
> education would you please include it. Also please have REDACTED make
> deletions or additions he desires.
> Thanks,
> REDACTED
>
>
>

182984

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 2004 4:04 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: REDACTED

You have agreed that our canonical investigator could interview REDACTED re Father Cronin but have not given us a time to do it. We will do it whenever and wherever you like including your office. Please advise as soon as possible when we can complete this interview. Thank you for your assistance. REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED -----------------------------

182980

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cardinal Roger M. Mahony

FROM: REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED
Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board

RE: ***Recommendation of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board***
Reverend Sean Cronin (CMOB 067-01)

DATE: 29 June 2004

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board discussed the case of Father Sean Cronin on June 23, 2004.

REDACTED

In late 2002 and early 2003, Father Cronin's name emerged on a list of alleged abusers provided by the plaintiffs' attorneys. Two individuals were listed as plaintiffs. The brief summaries on the list indicated that one of the young men (REDACTED) was alleging serious abuse over a period of many years (1968-1977) beginning with the assignment of Father Cronin to St. Genevieve. The other complainant REDACTED) alleged less egregious but still abusive activities from 1979-1982, beginning at St. Monica's. When informed that these two individuals were prospective plaintiffs, Father Cronin denied any misconduct. That denial was reiterated in a letter from REDACTED Father Cronin's attorney, in December of 2003.

In December of 2003, lawsuits were filed by the two men. The information in the lawsuits was sketchy in nature. In December 2003 and January 2004, one of our canonical auditors conducted some investigations. Announcements were made at Father Cronin's parish on the weekend of January 31 – February 1, 2004, informing the people that he had been accused by two individuals.

On April 16, 2004, REDACTED canonical auditor, interviewed REDACTED He described a lengthy period of contact with Father Cronin that began in counseling, and involved grooming behaviors, including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, and taking him to a movie that involved scenes of homosexual activity. According to REDACTED REDACTED Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Father Cronin kissed him on the mouth, though without using his tongue. REDACTED

claims that finally, on one occasion, Fr. Cronin asked to see his penis. Apparently in an earlier conversation REDACTED had told Fr. Cronin he had a birthmark there. REDACTED did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. This severed the relationship.

REDACTED followed up leads based on the statement of REDACTED but the only sort of corroborating information he could obtain were verifications that Fr. Cronin and REDACTED had spent a lot of time together.

Despite repeated efforts, we have not obtained the written questionnaire from the other plaintiff, REDACTED, or his written statement as part of the mediation process.

The members of the Board discussed Fr. Cronin's case at length. Other means to try to corroborate the claims of REDACTED were considered but offer little prospect of success. If the claims of REDACTED are accurate, most of what he described consists of unprofessional behavior on the part of Fr. Cronin and a pattern of regular and serious crossing of boundaries. A few things, such as the request that the young man exhibit his genitals and the unsolicited kiss on the lips, even though not "French kissing," cross over the line into abuse. Also, while providing alcohol to a minor is not sexual misconduct per se, it is a violation of the law and is the kind of activity that accompanies "grooming."

The Board has been advised that at this point the evidence is most likely insufficient to convict Fr. Cronin if this case were to be brought to a canonical trial. However, it appears to the members that REDACTED allegations are credible. The claims he makes are "restrained." If he was simply inventing charges he could have claimed far more egregious activity. His allegations together with Fr. Cronin's subsequent boundary violations at Marymount and his difficulties with alcohol were all considered and contribute to the following recommendations:

1. That Father Cronin be invited to meet with the canonical auditor and Vicar for Clergy to be confronted and questioned and given the opportunity to respond.

2. That unless Fr. Cronin's statement produces information which, in my and REDACTED judgment, require further immediate investigation and/or consideration by the Board, that he be placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues. In accord with policy, an announcement would be made at Fr. Cronin's parish.

3. That a report on the interview with Fr. Cronin be made at the next CMOB meeting.

4. That further efforts be made to interview REDACTED

I concur in the recommendation —
+ Roger Card. Mahony
29 June 2004

cc: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

182979

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2202

July 13, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Let me begin by assuring you of my prayers in this difficult time. If I can be of service to you, please let me know.

This letter is to confirm in writing the essential content of our meeting today. I indicated to you that, since the filing of the two lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of minors on your part, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with canon 1717. I explained that, in the course of this investigation, a canonical auditor has been able to interview the two plaintiffs and has conducted further investigations. I also explained that the canonical auditor very much wishes to have an opportunity to interview you about these allegations. You are welcome to have a canonical advisor present at that interview. We hope to be able to schedule a day and time for that interview as soon as reasonably possible.

Second, I indicated that the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board has several times examined the allegations brought against you. Initially, the Board recommended you be maintained in ministry as the investigation commenced. In its most recent review, the Board recommended that the investigation had progressed to a point where it was now appropriate to place you on administrative leave. Cardinal Mahony has approved the Board's recommendation. The leave became effective on this date at the time I personally notified you.

Please note that being placed on administrative leave does not involve any final judgment on our part that the allegations are true or false. It does reflect the fact that, as a result of the progress of the preliminary investigation, a formal canonical process is warranted. After you have the opportunity to be interviewed, the Cardinal will remand this matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith as required by the Apostolic Letter *Sacrmentorum sanctitatis tutela*. Administrative leave is a step taken to protect both you and others as the canonical process unfolds and leads to a final determination.

During this time of leave, I direct that you engage in no public ministry without my specific authorization or that of the Cardinal. I hereby issue the warning of canon 1347 to inform you that any violation of this prohibition would render you liable to canonical penalties.

182976

During your administrative leave, you are to leave your residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish as soon as reasonably possible and take up residence in a place we mutually agree upon. During your leave, your salary and benefits will be paid by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese will also reimburse you for the reasonable expenses of a canonical advocate.

During this traumatic time, let me renew my invitation to make use of one of our counselors to assist you in dealing with the stresses and tensions that being on a leave necessarily entails.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers. May the Lord guide and strengthen you with the blessings you need!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 14 July 2004

Last night I spoke with Father Cronin and placed him on administrative leave.

He mentioned that he had agreed to do a funeral on Friday morning for a family that specifically asked for him. The Pastor is on vacation and the Associate just arrived in the parish. For Father Cronin not to do this funeral would cause distress and raise questions. He asked about authorization to do that funeral.

I indicated that I understood the situation, and that I did not want rumors circulating in the parish before we make our weekend announcements. I told him I would consult.

I phoned by Cardinal Mahony and REDACTED Both agreed with me that it was appropriate to authorize Father Cronin to handle the funeral liturgies. I informed Father Cronin of this by phone this morning.

Statement for Weekend Masses at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Northridge
July 17-18, 2004
Regarding Reverend Sean Cronin

I am Monsignor Craig Cox and I am privileged to serve as Vicar for Clergy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. As you recall, on the weekend of January 31 – February 1, 2004, an announcement was made here at Our Lady of Lourdes concerning the lawsuits alleging that Father Sean Cronin engaged in misconduct in the years from 1972 to 1980. That announcement promised that we would keep you informed of future developments. I am here in fulfillment of that pledge to bring additional information directly to you.

When we learned of the lawsuits, an investigation was launched conducted by a private investigator, a retired Special Agent of the FBI. We sought interviews with both of the parties making the allegations against Father Cronin. Because the parties were represented by legal counsel, ethically we could not approach them directly. Fortunately, after working through their legal counsel, the investigator was able to complete both interviews. The investigator also spoke to numerous people who knew Father Cronin and the complainants and has been pursuing all available leads. His inquiry is ongoing.

As you were informed with the first announcement, Father Cronin denied any sexually abusive behavior with these two persons or with any minors. Father Cronin continues to maintain his innocence.

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board discussed the situation of Father Cronin at several meetings. The Board recommended that at this time Father Cronin be placed on administrative leave, a time away from the parish and all pastoral duties. Cardinal Mahony approved this recommendation and Father Cronin has begun his leave.

Please note that the decision to place Father Cronin on administrative leave does not reflect a determination that he is guilty of the allegations. It does mean that further inquiry and a formal canonical process will be required in order to make a determination of innocence or guilt. It is at this stage of a canonical process that administrative leave is called for by the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* adopted by the bishops of the United States and its *Essential Norms* as approved by the Holy See.

I realize that for many of you, this announcement may be disturbing. At this distressing time, I ask that you pray with special fervor for victims of abuse, for the success of the ongoing investigation in discovering the full truth, for Father Cronin during his leave, and for your parish community.

Thank you for your kind attention. May God bless you!

182974

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Members of the Presbyterate

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Father Sean Cronin

DATE: 18 July 2004

My brothers,

It is my sad duty to report to you that Father Sean Cronin has been placed on administrative leave.

Attached is the text of the announcement read at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish this weekend.

I ask that you please keep everyone involved in your prayers.

182973

** JOB STATUS REPORT ** AS OF JUL 20 2004 11:56 PAGE. 01

ARCHIOCESE

JOB #994

	DATE	TIME	TO/FROM	MODE	MIN/SEC	PGS	STATUS
001	7/20	11:53	REDACTED	3	01′ 53″	004	OK

FAX COVER PAGE

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES
3424 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CA 90010-2241 U.S.A.
FAX No. REDACTED

TO REDACTED

FROM REDACTED

FAX NO.

PAGES 4 - including Cover

PHONE NO.

DATE 7/20/04

RE Fr. Sean Cronin

CC

___ URGENT ___ FOR REVIEW ___ PLEASE COMMENT ___ PLEASE REPLY

COMMENTS:

182969

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
311 NORTH RAYMOND AVENUE
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91103

REDACTED
PASTOR

TEL. 792-418:

Friday, March 3rd 1977.

Eminence;

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel, it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,
REDACTED

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
311 NORTH RAYMOND AVENUE
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91103

PASADENA, CA 91
PM
3 MAR
1977

PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT ALL THE LAND
USA 13c

X [illegible]

Msgr. Sean Curran

His Eminence Cardinal Timothy Manning,
1531 - West 9th St.,
Los Angeles, California,
90015.

182971

REDACTED

Would you please arrange for Father Sean Cronin to come to see me.

REDACTED CARDINAL MANNING

March 2nd, 1977

182972

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE VICAR FOR CLERGY

TO: REDACTED

FROM:

RE: *Father Sean Cronin – SS#*REDACTED

DATE: July 27, 2004

Effective August 1, 2004, please add to the Priests' Payroll list Father Sean Cronin's name. ***Please charge his salary to the Exigency Account, Cost Center 01112.***

His salary will be as follows:

Base:	**$616.03**
In Lieu	**$250.00**
Ordination Increment	**$ 62.00**
Total	**$928.03**

He would like to have his checks be direct deposited; therefore, I am enclosing a canceled check for this purpose.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

182965

Enclosure

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
PEREGRINE FALCON

The Nature Conservancy. Saving the Last Great Places

SEAN CRONIN, PH.D.
REDACTED

926

DATE

16-66/1220
989

PAY TO THE ORDER OF $

Voided

DOLLARS

Bank of America.
REDACTED

Valued Customer Since 1972

FOR

MP

REDACTED

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
18405 Superior Street • Northridge, California • 91325
(818) 349-1500

14. VII. 04.

Dear REDACTED

Please find enclosed the voided cheque as you requested.

Thanking you.

In Christ

Sean

182966

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE VICAR FOR CLERGY

TO: REDACTED

FROM:

RE: *Father Sean Cronin – SS#*REDACTED

DATE: July 27, 2004

Effective August 1, 2004, the Archdiocese will become responsible for Father Sean Cronin's REDACTED The premiums should be charged to the Exigency Account, Cost Center 01112.

Thank you very much for taking note of this change.

182967

MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE VICAR FOR CLERGY

TO: REDACTED

FROM:

RE: *Reverend Sean Cronin -- SS#* REDACTED

DATE: July 27, 2004

Effective August 1, 2004, the Archdiocese will become responsible for Father Sean Cronin's REDACTED Please charge this to the Exigency Account, Cost Center 01112.

Thank you for taking note of this information.

182968

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 11 August 2004

I phoned Father Cronin today. I have two phone numbers for him . He is staying with people and their number is REDACTED . He has a cell phone: REDACTED

He has asked REDACTED to serve as his canonical advisor. Initially, Father REDACTED agreed to this service, but in recent days he has expressed that he may not do so. Father Cronin will be contacting Father REDACTED again in a few days.

We agreed that Father Cronin would contact me early next week. If Father REDACTED will serve as his advocate, then we will arrange an appointment. If not, Father Cronin will look for other canonical assistance.

182964

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

August 11, 2004

Personal and Confidential

REDACTED

Dear REDACTED

In Cardinal Mahony's absence, I am replying to your letter addressed to him of July 19, 2004. First of all, let me thank you for writing and for expressing your support for Father Sean Cronin. I am glad that you and others have encountered blessings in his ministry. He is fortunate to be able to rely on your friendship and support in this difficult time.

It is not possible to answer many of the questions you raised, precisely because to do so would violate Father Cronin's rights, as well as the rights of other people involved in this process. The process we use fully respects the norms of canon law and the requirements of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. These norms include protections for the rights of an accused. There are indeed "people from the pews" represented on the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board, as well as well respected members of the presbyterate representing the priests of the Archdiocese. In addition, part of my task as a consultant to the Board is to assure that canonical procedures are followed and the rights of priests are respected. I take that responsibility very, very seriously. Your pastor, REDACTED REDACTED will be able to share with you my reputation with regard to protecting the rights of priests.

Having experienced the deliberations of the Board for well over a year now, I am wonderfully impressed at the balance, good judgment, and care for the rights of an accused that the members demonstrate time and again. At the same time, the members of the Board are constantly striving to do an even better job. For that reason, I shared your letter with REDACTED the Chair of the Board, so that REDACTED would be fully aware of the concerns you raised.

There is oversight built into the system so that the actions of the Board, my own actions, and even the decisions of Cardinal are reviewed. Among other elements this oversight includes an annual audit conducted by the National Review Board and Conference of Bishops, the review of cases by the promoter of justice, and the oversight of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The Council of Priests also reviews policies and procedures related to the investigation of claims of sexual misconduct and makes recommendations. As the canonical process moves forward, Father Cronin will be afforded the opportunity to exercise all of the elements of the right of defense provided by canon law.

182960

I again want to thank you for writing. I realize I have not been able to answer all of your questions. As I mentioned, to get into too many specifics would require that I violate Father Cronin's rights and also violate my responsibility to maintain the confidentiality appropriate to ecclesiastical processes as I am bound to do by the Holy See.

Please continue to pray for Father Cronin, for Cardinal Mahony, for me in my challenging ministry, and for the members of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board. Finally, please pray that our ongoing investigation establishes uncovers the truth and results in a final decision that is just and in accord with the will of God.

May God bless you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

cc: REDACTED REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

July 19, 2004

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Cardinal Mahony
3424 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2202

Dear Cardinal Mahony:

The purpose of this letter is to request the immediate reinstatement of Father Sean Cronin as associate pastor to Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Northridge. Also, I am requesting reform to the "sexual misconduct oversight board" procedures to provide a fair and open due process to ensure that all parties involved in sexual misconduct allegations are fairly treated.

Our Lady of Lourdes parish was notified on Sunday, July 18, 2004 that the alleged misconduct report against Father Sean was reviewed by the oversight committee and they recommended administrative leave until the conclusion of the investigation. We discussed the oversight review process and the status of Father Sean with the representative of the archdiocese. We were very disappointed in the answers we received and shocked at the lack of due process in the handling of this case and I am sure most cases of misconduct. Some of the more troubling unanswered questions are:

- How could all thirteen members of the board agree on this action? Not one member disagreed with the report?
- Has the oversight board ever disagreed on any case involving misconduct or are they just a rubber stamp for the archdiocese? What is the voting record of the board?
- Was Father Sean represented by counsel in front of the board?
- Was a member of Our Lady of Lourdes represented in the proceeding?
- Was the alleged victim represented in front of the board?
- Who did the private investigator interview?
- Were all parties provided a copy of the private investigators report?
- Since the archdiocese is paying the private investigator, who is reviewing their work for accuracy?
- What is the guideline for suspending a priest?
- Most importantly, are innocent priest and religious personnel unfairly treated to give the appearance that the archdiocese is finally doing something about sexual misconduct?
- Is the archdiocese more worried about what the newspapers will report instead of doing the right thing by conducting a proper open investigation that ensures the rights of all parties?

The issue of innocence or guilt will only be answered by Father Sean, his accuser and God since the alleged misconduct happened over twenty years ago (unless these allegations receive a fair trial).

Most importantly, I would like to share my experience with Father Sean. I had the pleasure of attending a funeral for the father of a close friend with Sean celebrating the mass. It was a wonderful celebration and the family (catholic and non-catholic) were very grateful for the wonderful experience. After the funeral they hosted a lunch to thank everyone for participating in the funeral of their wonderful father. Sean arrived after everyone was seated. He had a choice of sitting with the young adults or with the more mature adults. He chose to sit with the young adults and enjoyed wonderful conversation. This is not the action of a pedophile but a loving and caring priest. I would have loved to share this story with the private investigator. Unfortunately, to my knowledge, the parish was never notified or asked to provide background information to assist in the investigation. The archdiocese and all parties involved would be better off having a representative of the parish present at the oversight board so as to ensure all members of the parish that the priest is treated fairly and to testify to the parish about the fairness of the proceeding. The whole process does not seem fair and appears to make the priest the scapegoat of past failures by the archdiocese.

We need to make sure that innocent priests and religious personnel are not unfairly treated for the sake of making amends for the past sins of the church. The biggest injustice would be that Father Sean in not allowed to follow his God given vocation if he is innocent. The archdiocese should do everything in their power to make sure this does not happen. The archdiocese loves to blame the Los Angeles Times newspaper for the problems, but they need to point the finger at themselves for the lack of open and honest communication in covering up the sexual misconduct problem. Follow the teachings of Jesus and all your decisions will be easy.

I speak for many of Our Lady of Lourdes parishioners in voicing this complaint that the whole process regarding Father Sean was not handled properly by the archdiocese. We have been very patient and supportive of the archdiocese and the whole sexual misconduct fiasco, but our patience is running out. Please reinstate Father Sean and fix the oversight board before you destroy the lives of people that have not been proven guilty by a fair and unbiased proceeding.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
REDACTED

Our Lady of Lourdes

182963

REDACTED

August 23, 2004

REDACTED

REDACTED

Will reply.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Bishop Gerald E. Wilkerson
15101 San Fernando Mission Blvd.
Mission Hills, CA 91345-1109

Dear Bishop Wilkerson:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to your letter dated July 26, 2004, a copy of which is enclosed, regarding Father Sean Cronin.

I spoke with Father Sean regarding the allegations and the review process as outlined in your letter. I am shocked at the lack of consideration given to his right to a fair and unbiased hearing and the failure of the board to protect priests from being labeled as "Guilty" before all facts are presented to the board.

According to Father Sean, he was never interviewed by the private investigator or the review board. He was not provided a copy of the board's recommendation. Please help me to understand: (a) How can an investigation be fairly conducted when only one half of the facts are presented? (b) How can an "impartial" board vote thirteen to zero when only one side of the story is being told? (c) How can you remove a priest based on one person testifying without the accuser being able to respond to the allegations or present their facts to the board before they vote?

As I spoke with Father Sean, I could not help but conclude that he was a scapegoat for the archdiocese past failures to protect children. It appears that the archdiocese would rather have an innocent priest accused, removed and convicted, as opposed to conducting a fair and unbiased investigation to determine the true facts. Are you more worried about public relations instead of conducting an honest investigation to provide closure to all parties? Are you so afraid of public opinion that you forgot your job to serve the people and religious personnel of the Los Angeles Archdiocese instead of being self-serving?

The treatment of Father Sean is unfair, unchristian and unacceptable. I ask you to please strongly consider changes to the following:

- Ensure that the rights of both the priests and the accusers are protected and that both parties are treated fairly and without bias,

- Require that a parish representative is present at board hearings,

182958

- Conduct a fair and unbiased investigation that uncovers all the facts before the board votes, and

- Reform the board to a truly independent function.

I believe the archdiocese is in a difficult position of trying to make amends for past failures and balancing the current investigation. We can not correct the past by making mistakes in the present.

What is most troubling about this matter is that we forgot the most important part of the sexual abuse problem in the church. We failed to educate. We have a wonderful opportunity to educate the whole community, Catholic and non-Catholic, on the characteristics of a pedophile. To bring the issue to center stage and engage in open meaningful discussions and educate to ensure that all children will be safer in every part of their lives, not just the church. Also, we failed to live by our Christian faith by worrying about what the newspaper will print and how the Catholic faith will be perceived, instead of doing the right thing.

Please stop the insanity and reinstate Father Sean until a fair and unbiased investigation is conducted. Please take the opportunity to educate everyone about sexual abuse. Please conduct the business of the Church as if you are answering to Jesus and not to the media.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
REDACTED

REDACTED
Our Lady of Lourdes

cc: REDACTED REDACTED
REDACTED
Cardinal Roger Mahony

Cronin

MEMORANDUM

TO: Msgr. Craig Cox

FROM: REDACTED

SUBJECT: Requested Contact Information

DATE: August 27, 2004

Here is the information you requested:

REDACTREDACTED
REDACTED

home: REDACTED
work:

I gave her a "heads up" that someone from your office would be calling her.

Hope this helps!

182957

RECEIVED
AUG 2? 2004
BY: ________

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

September 15, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Last spring, in March and again in May, we offered a day of recollection for priests on administrative leave and those who, while still in ministry, have been accused publicly. Father REDACTED helped facilitate both of those days, for which I am most grateful.

We have scheduled another day of recollection for the same group. It is my pleasure to invite you to the Cardinal Timothy Manning House of Prayer on **Wednesday, September 29, 2004**, the Feast of the Archangels. Father REDACTED will help facilitate the day.

As with the first two days, the intent is to provide a reflective, peaceful time, with some simple input, some time of silence, and an opportunity for you to connect with one another. If you have any suggestions for the day, Father REDACTED and I would welcome them.

The day will **begin at 10:00 a.m.** and end with dinner. You are welcome to arrive at the Manning House the evening before and stay the night if you wish, or to stay Wednesday night after the day of recollection formally concludes.

If you wish to take part in this day of prayer, please inform Monsignor Gonzales or myself at REDACTED If you wish to spend the night at Manning House, please inform one of the staff there directly at REDACTED

Peace be with you!

Your brother in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

182956

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

December 13, 2004

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Please know that you continue to be in my prayers during this very difficult time. It is times like these we know the wisdom of St. Paul when he experienced his powerlessness but found the grace of God in his weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). So may the grace of Christ fill you and strengthen you in this time of trial.

As you know, we are endeavoring to reach equitable settlements to the many lawsuits filed against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. As you may not know, as part of the settlement process in southern California, the judge has required that the Archdiocese as well (as other dioceses and religious orders) prepare "proffers" or summaries of the contents of most of the accused priests' clergy and confidential files. The Archdiocese recently completed the process of having the proffers it prepared reviewed and verified by the judge.

Cardinal Mahony is now consulting with his advisors, especially our Presbyteral Council, on the wisdom of making these proffers available for review by our Catholic people. Currently, it is his intent to proceed with making this information available in some form, especially since some victims have indicated that the release of this kind of information can be helpful to their healing process. Release of such information also responds to the call from so many of our Catholic people for greater openness about how complaints of sexual misconduct with minors have been handled. Thus, our sense is that there will be great value in taking the initiative now to release these documents ourselves, allowing us to do so in a constructive context and with appropriate explanation.

The Cardinal has asked that I write to each person for whom we have prepared proffers and to enclose for your review a copy of the proffer related to you. As you can see, for the most part the proffer includes information on your dates of birth and ordination as well as your assignment history. When applicable, the proffer also includes information on when any kind of sexual misconduct was reported to Archdiocesan authorities. This relates to the critical legal question of "notice." It also sketches the actions taken by officials of the Archdiocese in response to any complaints.

182952

Out of respect for your rights, the Cardinal did not want to release this proffer without first communicating our thinking to you and allowing you to review the proffer. Certainly, if any of the information in our files is erroneous, we would very much appreciate receiving corrected information from you.

Also, if you have any comments or questions, please feel free to phone REDACTED one of the attorneys most familiar with the proffers, at REDACTED You are also welcome to phone me on December 20, 21, or 22 at REDACTED I am not available from December 14-19 due to duties that take me outside the Archdiocese.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers, especially during this Advent season of hope. May these wonderful days of the liturgical year be a time of healing and renewal for us all!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

enclosure

182953

PROFFER RE FATHER SEAN CRONIN

Date	Description
10/26/43	Cronin born in Ireland.
10/7/67	Cronin ordained for the Diocese of Dublin, Ireland.
8/69-8/72	Cronin missionary in Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya, East Africa.
9/5/72	Cronin appointed Deacon at St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys.
9/8/73	Cronin incardinated into Archdiocese of Los Angeles.
9/8/73	Cronin assigned to St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys, CA.
12/27/75	Cronin assigned to St. Andrews Church, Pasadena.
3/3/77	Ltr from pastor at St. Andrews to Archbishop that Archbishop had asked pastor about the question of reference to Cronin's association with boys in his room. Pastor indicates it is a matter of doubt.
7/1/77	Cronin assigned to St. Monica Church, Santa Monica, and assigned to teach full time at St. Monica High School.
7/10/79	Cronin assigned to teach at St. Michael High School, Los Angeles, and to live at St. Michael's Church with faculties as an associate.
10/8/82	Cronin appointed to be in residence at St. Helen Church, South Gate, with faculties as an associate.
1/11/84	Cardinal Manning grants permission for Cronin to join the faculty of Marymount College, Palos Verdes.
10/1/84	Cronin assigned to faculty of Marymount College and granted faculties of an Associate at Holy Trinity. Placed in residence at St. Peter and Paul Church, Wilmington
7/6/88	Cronin placed in residence at St. Margaret Mary, Lomita. Continues to teach at Marymount College.
1991-92	Cronin on Sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Subsequently returns to faculty at Marymount College.
9/23/99	Memo from the president of Marymount College that he had reported to a regional bishop that a student (adult male REDACTED) had reported inappropriate conversation by Cronin who had apparently been drinking. No allegation of sexual contact. Allegations in the nature of sexual harassment.
10/6/99	Memo of Vicar for Clergy of his interview of two additional Marymount College students (male adults: REDACTED. and REDACTED) who reported inappropriate conversation and behavior by Cronin. No allegations of sexual contact. Allegations are in the nature of sexual harassment.

182954

10/7/99	Notes of meeting of Vicar for Clergy, the president of Marymount College, and REDACTED described an incident with Father Cronin. There was no sexual contact involved and REDACTED was an adult at the time of the incident.
10/19/99	Ltr from Vicar for Clergy to Cronin requesting that he be given a psychotherapeutic evaluation, participate in counseling on boundary issues, , participate in outpatient therapy and that he would be reassigned to a new ministry.
10/19/99	Telecon of Vicar for Clergy and president of Marymount College re REDACTED. (an adult)
10/19/99	Email from Staff psychologist in Vicar for Clergy's Office to Vicar for Clergy confirming that college was ministering to two students. Both of these students were adults at all relevant times.
11/5/99	Letter from attorney for Archdiocese to Father Cronin's civil attorney concerning the transfer of Father Cronin at the end of the school year. This does not relate to childhood sexual abuse.
1/7/00	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to Archbishop that new concerns about Father Cronin's drinking had arisen.
2/10/00 – 9/30/00	Fr. Cronin undergoes in-patient treatment for alcoholism at Guest House in Rochester, Minnesota.
10/1/00	Cronin assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Northridge.
2/12-16/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
9/10-14/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
2/25-28/02	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
1/7/03	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to file that he had advised Fr. Cronin that his name had appeared on a list of alleged perpetrators of sexual misconduct with minors prepared by attorneys for prospective plaintiffs. The misconduct allegedly occurred while Cronin was assigned to St. Genevieve's from 1973-75.

182955

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

December 22, 2004

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Church
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Sean:

Please know that you continue to be in my prayers. Christmas reminds us that, in the midst of darkness, light came among us. In celebrating the Incarnation, we receive reassurance and new hope. I pray that in this dark and difficult time of your life, this reassurance will uphold you!

The Archdiocese will be adjusting the allowance for living expenses for those priests on administrative leave who are living outside of ecclesiastical housing.

The allowance for those priests who are living with relatives or friends is being raised from [redacted] a month to [redacted] a month. This will take effect January 2005.

I would appreciate it if you could inform me of a direct mailing address. That information will be kept confidential.

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

182950

MEMORANDUM

TO: REDACTED

FROM: Monsignor Craig

RE: Adjustments in Living Allowance Provided for Priests on Administrative Leave

DATE: 22 December 2004

As you know, REDACTED recently approved an adjustment in the living allowance for priests on administrative leave who are not living in ecclesiastical housing.

Please arrange for the following adjustments to be made:

Reverend Sean Cronin raise to [redacted]

REDACTED

Thank you.

cc: REDACTED REDACTED

182951

CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
ATTORNEY-CLIENT WORK PRODUCT

January 28, 2005

Canonical Investigation of Father Sean Cronin

Interviewee: REDACTED

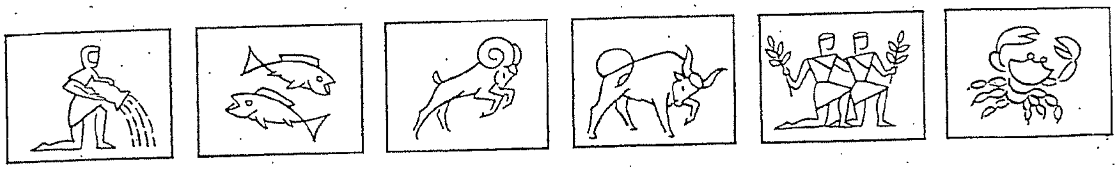
Interviewer: REDACTED

On January 28, 2005, REDACTED REDACTED was contacted at the San Fernando Mission and provided the following information:

He is Timothy Cardinal Manning's biographer and knew the Cardinal very well. He provided the appointment book for Manning for the year 1977 noting that Manning had an open door policy for priests and thus saw many men who might not be noted in the appointment book. When he observed the 10:30 appointment for March 4 for Fr. Sean Cronin he opined the appointment took place or else Cronin's name would have been crossed out. He provided a copy of the pertinent page and the first page of the book both of which are attached.

REDACTED

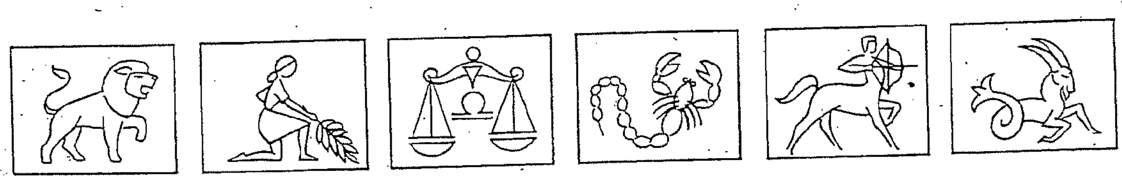
182907



1977

STANDARD DIARY

THE STANDARD DIARY COMPANY
DIVISION OF
WILSON JONES



To reorder this Diary use number on the outer binding edge of cover.

182908

llow

1977 63rd day - 302 days follow

Purim

FRIDAY 4 MARCH

REDACTED

10:30 - Fr. Sean Brown

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

182909

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

May 13, 2006

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Father Cronin:

This is to confirm my receipt of your letter, dated 14 April 2006 responding to my earlier letter of 13 March 2006.

You expressed your desire to have the opening of the canonical trial regarding the allegations made against you deferred until the civil lawsuits have been concluded. We will respect this request and place the matter on hold, informing the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith of this fact. Once the lawsuits are settled or resolved by civil trial, we will then initiate the canonical proceeding.

This is also to confirm that we have received your Mandate appointing Mr. REDACTED J.C.D., J.D. to represent you in any canonical proceeding.

As you may know, I will be completing my term of service as Vicar for Clergy at the end of June. Subsequent to that date, please feel free to contact Monsignor Gabriel Gonzales who will assume the responsibility of Vicar for Clergy in July.

May the grace and peace of Jesus Risen fill you in this Easter season!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

cc: REDACTED

182902

File Copy

OFFICE OF ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

TO: REDACTED

FROM:

RE:

DATE: May 3, 2004

Thank you for agreeing to provide service to the above-named individual. I am enclosing the following: Archdiocesan Guidelines for Pastoral Outreach to Victim-Survivors of Clergy Sexual Misconduct, Survivors of Clergy Abuse Initial Treatment Plan, Patient Release Form, and the Psychotherapeutic Service Provider Information Form.

So that my Office can monitor the progress of those we refer for counseling, we ask that you please cooperate with the following:

1. ***Initial Treatment Plan***:

   Please complete and return the attached form by the third visit. It has been designed for efficient time management. Remember to include a copy of your Release of Information form for our records.

2. ***Progress Reports***:

   We require you to complete progress reports ***every ten sessions***. My Office will send you a short form for this purpose when it is time for a progress report.

3. ***Final Summary Report***:

   This form will be sent to you when you notify my Office you are planning to terminate treatment.

4. ***Confidentiality***:

   We understand the importance of confidentiality if you are to develop and maintain a healthy alliance with your patients. However, I do ask that you:

A. Focus treatment on dealing with recovery from the clergy abuse;

B. Notify me if you need a Child Abuse Report or a Duty to Warn Report;

C. Notify me if suicide potential is a serious concern;

D. Keep me informed of any important problems as they arise.

5. *__Reimbursement for Services__*:

The agreed fee for services will be determined between the Assistance Ministry Office Coordinator and the therapist regarding the particular client. ***We do not assume responsibility for payment for late cancellations or "no shows" for appointments. __Any billing for these situations should be made to the individual in therapy.__*** Please include your Social Security number or Tax I.D.# on the bill, and send it in a timely manner to my office.

Please enclose a copy of your curriculum vita, copy of your license, and current malpractice insurance.

If you have questions, I can be reached aREDACTED

I look forward to working with you.

Enclosures (4)

FILE OR CASE # Cronin

SURVIVOR THERAPY RECORD

SURVIVOR REDACTED THERAPIST REDACTED

DATE INITIAL MEMO AND TREATMENT PLAN SENT: 5-3-04

DATE INITIAL TREATMENT PLAN AND RELEASE RECEIVED 6-1-04

START THERAPIST PROGRESS REPORTS DATE ____________

PROGRESS REPORT #1 REQUEST SENT 8-31-04 RECEIVED 10-12-04

PROGRESS REPORT #2 REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

PROGRESS REPORT #3 REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

PROGRESS REPORT #4 REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

PROGRESS REPORT #5 REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

PROGRESS REPORT #6 REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

FINAL SUMMARY REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

SURVIVOR EVALUATION REQUEST SENT ____________ RECEIVED ____________

Therapist Address: ____________

Dear [redacted]

I know that Msgr. Cox left for his annual retreat and is out of the office now. I have no knowledge of any of the priests process.

I wanted to let you know that I hope you got started with [redacted] in therapy. Let me know if it's helpful. Sr [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: Webmaster
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 9:05 AM
To [redacted]
Subject: RE: Father Sean Cronin

I'm forwarding your message to Assistance Minister Sr [redacted] with a copy to Msgr. Cox's office. I'm praying for everyone involved. *j

[redacted]
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 6:04 AM
To: Webmaster
Please forward this to somebody who cares.

[redacted]

Date: Wed, 19 May 2004 05:57:22 -0700 (PDT)
From: [redacted]
Subject: Father Sean Cronin
To: MsgrCACox [redacted]

Dear Msgr. Cox,

As you probably already know, I met with [redacted] the Special Investigator. I came to Los Angeles at my own time and expense to meet with him. I did what you asked me to do. I feel it's only fair that you tell me what has been done about Sean Cronin. What was the result of the investigation ??? Is Sean Cronin going to be removed or has he been removed ??? Is the Archdiocese going to honor the " Zero Tolerance " policy ???

Healing also begins with communication Msgr. Please give me an answer. I deserve that much. Please let me know.

Thank you.

[redacted]

98007

SURVIVORS OF ABUSE
INITIAL TREATMENT PLAN
(Please Type or Print)

Patient Name: REDACTED ______ DOB: ______________

Date of First Visit: [illegible]

REDACTED

REDACTED

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284

3424 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles California 90010-2202

July 13, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Let me begin by assuring you of my prayers in this difficult time. If I can be of service to you, please let me know.

This letter is to confirm in writing the essential content of our meeting today. I indicated to you that, since the filing of the two lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of minors on your part, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with canon 1717. I explained that, in the course of this investigation, a canonical auditor has been able to interview the two plaintiffs and has conducted further investigations. I also explained that the canonical auditor very much wishes to have an opportunity to interview you about these allegations. You are welcome to have a canonical advisor present at that interview. We hope to be able to schedule a day and time for that interview as soon as reasonably possible.

Second, I indicated that the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board has several times examined the allegations brought against you. Initially, the Board recommended you be maintained in ministry as the investigation commenced. In its most recent review, the Board recommended that the investigation had progressed to a point where it was now appropriate to place you on administrative leave. Cardinal Mahony has approved the Board's recommendation. The leave became effective on this date at the time I personally notified you.

Please note that being placed on administrative leave does not involve any final judgment on our part that the allegations are true or false. It does reflect the fact that, as a result of the progress of the preliminary investigation, a formal canonical process is warranted. After you have the opportunity to be interviewed, the Cardinal will remand this matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith as required by the Apostolic Letter *Sacrmentorum sanctitatis tutela.* Administrative leave is a step taken to protect both you and others as the canonical process unfolds and leads to a final determination.

During this time of leave, I direct that you engage in no public ministry without my specific authorization or that of the Cardinal. I hereby issue the warning of canon 1347 to inform you that any violation of this prohibition would render you liable to canonical penalties.

During your administrative leave, you are to leave your residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish as soon as reasonably possible and take up residence in a place we mutually agree upon. During your leave, your salary and benefits will be paid by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese will also reimburse you for the reasonable expenses of a canonical advocate.

During this traumatic time, let me renew my invitation to make use of one of our counselors to assist you in dealing with the stresses and tensions that being on a leave necessarily entails.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers. May the Lord guide and strengthen you with the blessings you need!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 14 July 2004

Last night I spoke with Father Cronin and placed him on administrative leave.

He mentioned that he had agreed to do a funeral on Friday morning for a family that specifically asked for him. The Pastor is on vacation and the Associate just arrived in the parish. For Father Cronin not to do this funeral would cause distress and raise questions. He asked about authorization to do that funeral.

I indicated that I understood the situation, and that I did not want rumors circulating in the parish before we make our weekend announcements. I told him I would consult.

I phoned by Cardinal Mahony and [redacted] Both agreed with me that it was appropriate to authorize Father Cronin to handle the funeral liturgies. I informed Father Cronin of this by phone this morning.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cardinal Roger M. Mahony

FROM: [redacted]
Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board [redacted]

RE: ***Recommendation of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board Reverend Sean Cronin (CMOB 067-01)***

DATE: 29 June 2004

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board discussed the case of Father Sean Cronin on June 23, 2004.

REDACTED

In late 2002 and early 2003, Father Cronin's name emerged on a list of alleged abusers provided by the plaintiffs' attorneys. Two individuals were listed as plaintiffs. The brief summaries on the list indicated that one of the young men ([redacted] was alleging serious abuse over a period of many years (1968-1977) beginning with the assignment of Father Cronin to St. Genevieve. The other complainant [redacted] alleged less egregious but still abusive activities from 1979-1982, beginning at St. Monica's. When informed that these two individuals were prospective plaintiffs, Father Cronin denied any misconduct. That denial was reiterated in a letter from [redacted] Father Cronin's attorney, in December of 2003.

In December of 2003, lawsuits were filed by the two men. The information in the lawsuits was sketchy in nature. In December 2003 and January 2004, one of our canonical auditors conducted some investigations. Announcements were made at Father Cronin's parish on the weekend of January 31 – February 1, 2004, informing the people that he had been accused by two individuals.

On April 16, 2004, [redacted] canonical auditor, interviewed Mr. [redacted] He described a lengthy period of contact with Father Cronin that began in counseling, and involved grooming behaviors, including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, and taking him to a movie that involved scenes of homosexual activity. According to Mr. [redacted], Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Father Cronin kissed him on the mouth, though without using his tongue. Mr. [redacted]

claims that finally, on one occasion, Fr. Cronin asked to see his penis. Apparently in an earlier conversation M[redacted] had told Fr. Cronin he had a birthmark there. Mr.[redacted] did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. This severed the relationship.

M[redacted] followed up leads based on the statement of Mr.[redacted], but the only sort of corroborating information he could obtain were verifications that Fr. Cronin and Mr[redacted] had spent a lot of time together.

Despite repeated efforts, we have not obtained the written questionnaire from the other plaintiff, [redacted] or his written statement as part of the mediation process.

The members of the Board discussed Fr. Cronin's case at length. Other means to try to corroborate the claims of M[redacted] were considered but offer little prospect of success. If the claims of M[redacted] are accurate, most of what he described consists of unprofessional behavior on the part of Fr. Cronin and a pattern of regular and serious crossing of boundaries. A few things, such as the request that the young man exhibit his genitals and the unsolicited kiss on the lips, even though not "French kissing," cross over the line into abuse. Also, while providing alcohol to a minor is not sexual misconduct per se, it is a violation of the law and is the kind of activity that accompanies "grooming."

The Board has been advised that at this point the evidence is most likely insufficient to convict Fr. Cronin if this case were to be brought to a canonical trial. However, it appears to the members that Mr[redacted] allegations are credible. The claims he makes are "restrained." If he was simply inventing charges he could have claimed far more egregious activity. His allegations together with Fr. Cronin's subsequent boundary violations at Marymount and his difficulties with alcohol were all considered and contribute to the following recommendations:

1. That Father Cronin be invited to meet with the canonical auditor and Vicar for Clergy to be confronted and questioned and given the opportunity to respond.
2. That unless Fr. Cronin's statement produces information which, in my and [redacted] judgment, require further immediate investigation and/or consideration by the Board, that he be placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues. In accord with policy, an announcement would be made at Fr. Cronin's parish.
3. That a report on the interview with Fr. Cronin be made at the next CMOB meeting.
4. That further efforts be made to interview [redacted]

I concur in the recommendation —
+ Roger Card. Mahony
29 June 2004

cc: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

GuestHouse

ROCHESTER TREATMENT CENTER
4800 – 48th Street, N.E.
P.O. Box 954
Rochester, MN 55903

March 8, 2002

His Eminence Roger Cardinal Mahoney
3424 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Confidential
Re: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to report that Father Sean Cronin has satisfactorily completed the third and final phase of his recovery program at Guest House, February 25 to 28, 2002. During his formal treatment and Continuing Care, we have witnessed the emergence of a dedicated priest who is committed to the goal of long-term quality sobriety.

The primary focus of Father Cronin's Continuing Care week was on reviewing and revising his Continuing Care Plan. He had individual and group sessions with the therapy staff, attended a minimum of one AA meeting, and participated in group with Guest House primary clients. This afforded Father the ability to talk about the challenges and rewards of his recovery. He also participated in a group on spirituality.

Father Cronin reports abstinence since discharge and attendance at AA meetings on a weekly basis. He does have a sponsor who he sees on a regular basis. He is also attending priests' meetings within the Archdiocese.

Physically, Father is in overall good physical health and is following up with his physician on a regular basis. He appears to be very grateful for sobriety, and he is utilizing the tools of recovery. Overall, I am very pleased with the progress Father Cronin has made.

I have enclosed a copy of his Continuing Care Plan for your review, as you can see it is very comprehensive. While this concludes our formal interaction with Father Cronin, we hope he will stay in touch with us as a part of his ongoing recovery. By copy of this letter, we remind Father of his commitment to sobriety and recovery.

Your Eminence, thank you for your ongoing support of Father Cronin and the Guest House mission. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully yours,

[redacted]

JMR/dlp

Enclosure
cc: [redacted]
Reverend Sean Cronin
File

RECEIVED
MAR 2 1 2002
BY:______

200. Rec'd 5/28

REDACTED

From: REDACTED

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 11:02 PM

To: REDACTED [redacted]

Subject: Misconduct

Computer e mail down – 5/24 – 5/27 holiday

Dear REDACTED

I have often pondered if I should have reported what I felt was misconduct by a priest before now. I only did not do so for the protection of the priest and the church. I often felt that maybe I was somehow responsible for his behavior towards me. I befriended the priest in question when I was a senior in high school. I was going through a difficult time coming to terms with the divorce of my parents and the early symptoms of substance abuse. The priest in question began helping me and meeting with me on a regular basis to talk about my problems and God. He would pick me up at my parents house on a weekly basis and we would go to dinner, where we drank alcohol, and then return to his residence to talk. Again, he always served me and himself alcohol. Our sessions often turned to discussions about sex. I remember him being very interested in the subject. At the end of our meeting we would hug. He then started kissing me on the lips. I was startled. He told me that in european cultures this was acceptable between men. He was Irish. He once took me to A Dutch film that dealt with a young man who was confronting his homosexuality. He felt that it was a film I should see. It did have sexual content with gay sex. The final incident for me was when I had told him that I had a birthmark on my penis. One night he asked if he could see it. I became angry and told him I never wanted to see him again. I was crushed. I felt that I had caused this. He betrayed my trust. I honestly feel that this would have and could have developed into a more serious situation had I had not put an end to it. It's important to note that this all began when I was 17 and ended when I was 18. What do you think ???

REDACTED

Chat with friends online, try MSN Messenger: Click Here

/28
18 Responded: I am sorry ... REDACTED
n- Dave
.pm

email address

- give alleged perpetrator
- place of incidents
- your name
It will be handled with respect

MEMORANDUM

CONFIDENTIAL

To: **Cardinal Roger Mahony**

From: Monsignor Richard Loomis

Date: Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Re: Father Sean Cronin

Father Cronin is coming to see you. I believe your appointment is November 22.

To recap: Three young men brought forward allegations of sexual harassment concerning Father Cronin. Their only connection seems to be Father Cronin and participation as volunteer "assistant chaplains." By sexual harassment I mean unwanted attentions, words and touches. There was also some concern expressed by the students (and by [redacted] that Father Cronin might have a drinking problem, possibly compounded by prescription medication that he is taking.

When we presented their report verbally to Father Cronin, he described much the same words and actions but from a very different point of view. He claimed that his motivation was to be affirming and supportive to students who were challenged. He characterized the students at Marymount as needing extra encouragement. He also revealed that he took medication to deal with insomnia and anxiety that might have given the impression to some that he had been drinking.

- **The first outcome we hope will come from your appointment with Father Cronin is to bring the matter out of the legal realm and into the realm of the relationship between a diocesan bishop and his priest.** While we desired to handle the matter pastorally with appropriate concern for both Father Cronin and the young people, Father escalated the matter by introducing a civil lawyer who began interpreting everything in legal terms (e.g., allegations, reports and concerns suddenly became "serious charges").

- **We do not think that Father Cronin intended to make any sexual advances toward these young men nor are they charging him with doing so.** [redacted] and I reviewed both the allegations and Father Cronin's response. We feel that Father Cronin did <u>not</u> intentionally make sexual advances or overtures to the students involved. However, the students did sense that Father crossed appropriate boundaries. Their presentation was authentic and very credible. Because of the introduction of the attorney, we never had the opportunity to say this to Father Cronin.

Father Cronin, by his own accounting, has a very "touchy-feely" style. He sees this as being very affirming to the students. REDACTED and I believe that this is the crux of the misunderstanding between the students and Father Cronin. His style may have been well accepted in the 1980's. However, people in the late 1990's have a much clearer sense of their boundaries and are more apt to react to a sense of boundary violation. **Hence, our recommendation that Father work with** REDACTED **in an educational process on boundary issues.** Our goal is to prevent misunderstanding in the future by heightening Father Cronin's sensitivity to others' perceptions of appropriate boundaries.

- **Third, for Father Cronin's welfare as well as the safety of others, we feel that there must be a thorough review of any possibility of substance abuse.** Doctor REDACTED has told us that some faculty members have mentioned that they have smelled alcohol on Father Cronin's breath. Two of the students in this instance also mentioned alcohol. REDACTED has said that other priests have commented to him that Father Cronin may have a problem with drinking. We ask that Father Cronin work with REDACTED in this area, as well as cooperate in a competent psychiatrist reviewing his medications in the light of any potential of problem drinking.

- **Fourth, we feel that there is a need for Father Cronin to work through the emotional issues rising from this intervention with a therapist.** We also believe that working with a therapist to help uncover the underlying reasons for crossing boundaries with these young men is essential. We believe this work can be done on an outpatient basis. [redacted] Father Cronin has made it known through his attorney and a Marymount College trustee that he is terrified of being sent to Saint Luke Institute. We have <u>never</u> mentioned this to him, not even as a possibility.)

- **Fifth, these matters need to be addressed out of the context that has led Father to this situation.** Marymount College is open to a transfer effective at the end of this term (February). We agree that a new assignment would be beneficial and provide a fresh point of view from which Father Cronin could address his issues. He has been in this assignment too long and has developed some habits that are proving problematic. A new environment is indicated.

If you wish me to sit in on the appointment with you, please let me know.

Archdiocese of Los Angeles [redacted] 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

27 July 2010

[redacted]ost Reverend Pietro Sambi
Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687

RE: Letter to His Eminence
Cardinal William Cardinal Levada, Prefect
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith-CDF Prot. No. 782/2004-22104

Your Excellency:

Enclosed is a letter addressed to Cardinal William Levada, Prefect of the *Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith*, from Cardinal Roger Mahony.

I would respectfully request that you kindly forward the enclosed letter to the Congregation.

I am very grateful for your assistance in this matter. May the Lord continue to bless you and your ministry.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[redacted]

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Enclosure

Shipment Receipt

Transaction Date: 27 Jul 2010
Tracking Number: 1ZX008180297569152

1 Address Information

Ship To:
REDACTED
3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
WASHINGTON DC 200083610
Telephone:2136377888

Ship From:
REDACTED
ARCHDIOCESE OF L.A.
3424 Wilshire Blvd
4th Floor
Los Angeles CA 900102241
Telephone:213-637-7888

Return Address:
REDACTED
ARCHDIOCESE OF L.A.
3424 Wilshire Blvd
4th Floor
Los Angeles CA 900102241
Telephone:213-637-7888

2 Package Information

	Weight	Dimensions / Packaging	Declared Value	Reference Numbers
1.	0.5 lbs (Letter billable)	UPS Letter	1 USD	Cost Center - 00040 Reference # 2 - CDF.Prot No. 782/2004-22104

3 UPS Shipping Service and Shipping Options

Service:
UPS 2nd Day Air

Guaranteed By: [1]
End of Day Thursday, 7/29/2010

Shipping Fees Subtotal:	**16.42 USD**
Transportation	15.20 USD
Fuel Surcharge	1.22 USD
Declared Value	
Package 1	0.00 USD

4 Payment Information

Bill Shipping Charges to: Shipper's Account X00818

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
the Archbishop
(213) 637-7288

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

VOTUM OF THE BISHOP OF INCARDINATION
CARDINAL ROGER M. MAHONY

23 July 2010

His Holiness
Pope Benedict XVI

RE: **Sean Cronin**
Petition for Dispensation from the Obligations of Priesthood and Celibacy

Your Holiness:

It is with deep sadness that I write to you regarding the petition of Sean Cronin requesting a dispensation from the obligation of sacred orders, along with a dispensation from the obligation of clerical celibacy.

Sean Cronin, born 26 October 1943, was incardinated in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, and was ordained to the diaconate on 7 October 1967. The archdiocesan seminary council recommended that Deacon Cronin not be promoted to the order of priesthood due to fears over homosexual tendencies.

For a time Deacon Cronin exercised diaconal ministry in Africa. There he met and was invited by the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, to come to his Archdiocese. On 13 June 1973, he was excardinated from the Archdiocese of Dublin and incardinated into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. On 8 September 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

During the years that followed, Father Cronin enjoyed various priestly assignments in our Archdiocese. [redacted]

REDACTED

REDACTED

In 2003 I received notice that a Mr. [redacted] had filed suit against the Archdiocese charging that Father Cronin had performed egregious sexual acts upon him while [redacted] was still a minor. In that same year a Mr [redacted] filed charges of a similar nature. I initiated an investigation according to the norm of law and determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela,* I provided a detailed report to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and was authorized to conduct a penal judicial process to determine guilt or innocence on the charge of sexual abuse of a minor. Meanwhile, on 13 July 2004, Father Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin requested a delay in the trial pending the outcome of law suits against the Archdiocese by victims of clerical sexual abuse. Now, with the help of canonical counsel, he has decided to forego the right to a judicial trial and voluntarily to petition Your Holiness for a dispensation from all the rights and obligations of a presbyter.

The allegations against Sean Cronin give evidence of a troubled life, dating back to his seminary days and lasting throughout his years of active ministry. Writing to my Promoter of Justice, the present Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin, states that his predecessor, Archbishop McQuaid was adamant that, due to homosexual tendencies, Sean Cronin not be promoted to priesthood. Subsequently, evidence of these homosexual tendencies appears in Dr. [redacted] report and in the reports of the students themselves. Added is the aggravating circumstance of alcohol abuse while engaged in the public exercise of priestly ministry.

Even more disturbing are the allegations of sexual abuse of minors which bear a semblance of truth.

In retrospect, it seems clear that Sean Cronin was never a suitable candidate for the priesthood, and is presently not suited for active ministry. It would be for the good of the Church and for Father Cronin's own good if he were to be returned to the lay state. For this reason, I hereby offer my *Votum* in favor of granting this petition.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Roger Cardinal Mahony

His Eminence
Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
the Archbishop
(213) 637-7288

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

23 July 2010

His Eminence,
Cardinal William J. Levada, Prefect
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza Del S. Ufficio, 11
00120 Vatican City
EUROPE

Re: Prot. N. 782/2004-22104
Rev. Sean Cronin
Accused of *Graviora Delicta.*

Your Eminence:

I write to you concerning developments in the above referenced case of Reverend Sean Cronin. In the interests of completeness, information already included in my original report to the Congregation may be repeated here.

Sean Cronin, born 26 October 1943, incardinated in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, and was ordained to the diaconate on 7 October 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies."

For a time Deacon Cronin exercised diaconal ministry in Africa. There he met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, who invited him for service in his Archdiocese. In 1972 he was assigned as a deacon to St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys). On 13 June 1973 he was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and on 8 September 1973 was ordained to the priesthood.

Father Cronin had various assignments in the Archdiocese including parochial vicar, high school teacher, and chaplain/teacher at Marymount College in Rancho Palos Verdes, California. He spent the year 1991 on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Part of the year 2000 was spent on sick leave.

[redacted] In 2003 the Archdiocese was notified that [redacted] had filed suit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, charging that between the years 1972 to 1977, while Yguado was still a minor, Father Cronin perpetrated sexual acts on him. In the

same year the Archdiocese received notice of a similar suit filed by [redacted] charging that, during the years 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of the time in question, Mr. [redacted] would have been a minor at civil but not at canon law.

On 7 November 2003, I initiated a preliminary investigation in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004 I determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth, and, as mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, I communicated the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. By letter dated 12 November 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a penal judicial process to determine the truth of the matter (*Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei*, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on 13 July 2004, Father Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin was notified of the pending action. In a hand written letter to my Vicar for Clergy, Msgr. Craig Cox, dated 14 April 2006, he requested a delay in the canonical trial pending the outcome of the law suits against the Archdiocese filed by victims of clerical sexual abuse. At the same time, he informed Msgr. Cox that he had given his mandate to Mr [redacted], to represent him as his Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

In due time Father Cronin was notified that it was opportune to begin the penal process. After consulting with canonical counsel, Cronin informed me of his decision to forego the right to a judicial trial and to voluntarily petition the Holy Father for a dispensation from all the obligations and rights of a presbyter.

In my original report to the Congregation, I provided a description of the case drawn from documents on file at the Archdiocesan Curia at that time. Since then, additional information has come to light which prompts my full support of Father Cronin's decision.

The three accusations of sexual misconduct against Father Cronin are separated and unconnected. [redacted] On file in our Curia is a letter from the present Archbishop of Dublin, [redacted] dated 24 February 2006, outlining the sequence of events leading to the decision not to promote Sean Cronin to the order of priesthood due to "a grave fear of homosexual tendencies." In the months succeeding his dismissal from the seminary, the Archdiocese of Dublin was approached by several diocesan bishops requesting Cronin's excardination. [redacted] responses were unambiguous: "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; ~~"I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese." In 1972 Archbishop~~ McQuaid's successor granted excardination, with the caution, "the responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the bishop who accepts him" (cf. attached letter).

REDACTED

statement and was interviewed by a canonical investigator. He described what he believed were sexual approaches by Cronin including an attempt to touch his buttocks. In a meeting with my Vicar for Clergy, in the presence of Dr. [redacted] described Fr. Cronin's efforts "to hit on him." These young men were found to be credible. The third complainant, [redacted] declined repeated offers to be interviewed.

Along with the allegations of homosexual behavior, Dr. [redacted] reported that faculty members experienced smelling alcohol on Fr. Cronin's breath in the public performance of priestly duties. One student reported having a similar experience during class and while in Cronin's office [redacted] requested Cronin's transfer to a different ministry. Father Cronin admits to some of the behaviors described by the college students but denies sexual intent. As part of the intervention, Fr. Cronin was required to receive training in boundary issues, and in the years 2000-2001 he was treated for alcohol/substance abuse at Guest House, Rochester, Minnesota (Investigative Report, pp. 8-13).

The [redacted] accusations involve the sexual abuse of minor boys. Reference is made here to a hand written letter dated 3 March 1977 by [redacted] Father Cronin's Pastor, to Archbishop Manning regarding Cronin's association with young boys (c.f. Investigative Report, p. 5). That letter reads in full:

> Eminence:
>
> When we talked Sunday about Sean (Cronin) you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.
>
> Sincerely,
> James

Clearly, Cardinal Manning and [redacted] were gravely concerned over information that had surfaced about Fr. Cronin's association with boys in Cronin's private quarters. [redacted] judged that there was doubt about the matter. He concluded, "If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future."

[redacted] observation is important in that the problem did arise later on in the [redacted] and [redacted] allegations. Mr. [redacted] claims that while he was a minor, Father Cronin abused him sexually. The alleged abuse occurred "many times over 10 years," "three to five times a week for the first couple of years" and "approximately once a month" thereafter while the complainant was an altar boy. The abuse consisted in "mutual ejaculation," oral copulation, wrestling, "touching my anus," "simulated intercourse (over and under the clothes)," and "I would go to bed with Fr. Cronin when we stayed at the rectory."

In an interview conducted by [redacted] on 30 June 2004, Mr [redacted] repeated these and similar allegations. The acts are alleged to have occurred

in [redacted]s home and in Cronin's residences at St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City, St. Monica Parish, Santa Monica, and St. Michael Parish, Los Angeles. (Cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin," pp. 25-36.) Father Cronin denies the allegation completely.

A background check of Mr[redacted] reveals that he was convicted of a felony (violence), and experienced other difficulties with the law. He has been married multiple times and admits to promiscuous relationships. These facts raise concern over his credibility and the details and scope of his allegation. Nonetheless, in light of [redacted] concern over young boys in Fr. Cronin's room and the subsequent [redacted] allegation, it would be difficult to argue that the accuser's answers in the claimant questionnaire and his statement to the canonical investigator are a total fabrication.

The third complainant, Mr.[redacted] describes a lengthy period of interaction between himself and Fr. Cronin while [redacted] was a senior and Cronin a teacher at St. Monica High School, Santa Monica. The relationship began with counseling sessions and developed into grooming behaviors such as the provision of alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, and taking the young man to a movie that included homosexual activity. According to Mr[redacted] Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually Fr. Cronin kissed him on the mouth. In one conversation [redacted] shared with Fr. Cronin that he has a birth mark on his penis. [redacted] claims that Cronin asked if he could see his penis. Mr.[redacted] did not comply with the request and asked that Fr. Cronin take him home immediately. The incident severed the relationship. Interviews conducted by M[redacted] with other persons provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and Mr[redacted] did spend time together. (Cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp. 14-25.) Father Cronin denied any misconduct.

Subsequently, Mr.[redacted] sent an e-mail to Fr. Cronin via Msgr. Cox entitled, "My Pain." The e-mail reads in part: "Father Cronin, I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine." The purpose of the e-mail was to remind Fr. Cronin of the harm he did to Mr.[redacted]4 years earlier, the adverse effect that it is having on him and his family, and that Fr. Cronin owes it to him, his family and the church to tell the truth. Mr.[redacted] received psychological therapy arranged and paid for through the Victim's Assistance Office of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

There are marked similarities between the [redacted] and the [redacted] allegations. However, the Yguado allegation alone rises to the level of a delict, which if proven, would warrant Sean Cronin's removal from the clerical state. The allegations of homosexual behavior and alcohol abuse, though very serious in themselves, would not necessarily warrant such a penalty. Nevertheless, taken cumulatively, the various allegations against Sean Cronin give evidence of a troubled life at odds with any form of priestly ministry. For these reasons, it is my judgment that Father Cronin is presently not suitable for priestly ministry and will not be in the future. I wholeheartedly support his petition to the Holy Father for a return to the lay state.

It should be noted that ever since his removal from active ministry Father Cronin has enjoyed full support from the archdiocese. In the event that the Holy Father answers affirmatively to his petition, the Archdiocese agrees to provide for his immediate and transitional needs.

Please find the following attachments;

a) Father Cronin's signed petition addressed to the Holy Father requesting dispensation from all clerical obligations, including celibacy;
b) Father Cronin's *Curriculum Vitae*;
c) Mandate for Father Cronin's Procurator/Advocate;
d) My *Votum* addressed to the Holy Father in support of Father Cronin's Petition;
e) Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin;
f) Letter from the Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin: 24 February 2006.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Roger Card. Mahony

His Eminence
Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Petitioner: Reverend Sean Cronin
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FROM ALLCLERICAL OBLIGATIONS, INCLUDING CELIBACY

His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI
Apostolic Palace
00120 Vatican City

Dear Holy Father:

In a spirit of humility I come before you to ask that I be dispensed from all clerical obligations, including celibacy.

I am a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. I attach a copy of my *curriculum vitae* to this petition.

I am 66 years old. I was ordained in 1973 and was in active ministry in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles until July 13, 2004 when I was placed on administrative leave and enjoined from public ministry. This leave resulted from two allegations of sexual misconduct with minors which allegedly occurred 20-25 years before.

In 2006 the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith authorized a canonical penal trial to be conducted regarding these allegations. I was given the choice to have the trial start at that time or to postpone it until after the civil suits had been settled. I elected the postponement The trial has not yet commenced.

After much thought, prayer and consultation with my canonical counsel, and faced with the fact that my active ministry as a priest is effectively over, I have decided to forego the penal trial and to voluntarily petition for laicization. I believe that this decision is in the best interest of myself, the Church and the Archdiocese. I have been on leave for six years and a trial started now could extend that time by years without any assurance of what my position will be at the end of that trial and thereafter. At 66 and with some health conditions, I can now plan for my remaining years with some certainty about my future and my means of support if I now make and am granted this petition.

~~Asking Your Holiness to look favorably upon this petition, I remain,~~

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Given in Los Angeles on this
30 day of June, 2010

Reverend Sean Cronin

CURRICULUM VITAE

DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
NAME OF ORDINARY	Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
CDF PROT. N. (*if available*)	782/2004-22104
NAME OF CLERIC	Rev. Sean Cronin

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	Date of Birth	26 October 1943	Age	66+
	Ordination	Deacon: 7 Oct 1967 Priest: 8 Sept 1973	Years of ministry	

ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION	Dublin, Ireland
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC	[redacted]
PROCURATOR (*include original signed mandate*)	
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR	

ASSIGNMENTS

Year	Parish	Location	Appointment
1972	St. Genevieve	Panorama City (Van Nuys), California	Deacon
1973	St. Genevieve	Panorama City (Van Nuys), California	Parochial Vicar
1973			Incardinated in Archdiocese of Los Angeles on 13 June 1973
1975	St. Andrew	Pasadena, California	Parochial Vicar
1977	St. Monica High School	Santa Monica, California	Faculty
1977	St. Monica Parish	Santa Monica, California	Parochial Vicar
1979	St. Michael High School	Los Angeles, California	Faculty
1979	St. Michael Parish	Los Angeles, California	Resident
1982	St. Helen	South Gate, California	Resident
1984-2000	Marymount College	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA	Chaplain
1984	Sts. Peter and Paul	Wilmington, California	Resident
1988	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident
1991	Oxford University	England	Sabbatical
1992-2000	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident (resumption)

2000			Sick Leave
2000	Our Lady of Lourdes	Northridge, California	Parochial Vicar
2004			Administrative Leave

MANDATE

Pursuant to Canon 1481 of the Code of Canon Law, I, REVEREND SEAN CRONIN, hereby appoint REDACTED to represent me as my canonical counsel, Advocate and Procurator in all matters pertaining to my canonical status and position in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, California and to any investigation, legal process or other action of any kind involving allegations of sexual abuse brought against me, including any recourse taken from any such process or action.

Dated: April 5, 2006

Reverend Sean Cronin

I hereby accept the appointment set forth in the above Mandate of Reverend Sean Cronin.

Dated: April 5, 2006

REDACTED

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
OF SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS
AGAINST FATHER SEAN CRONIN

CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS 36 PAGE REPORT AND THE ATTACHMENTS THERETO ARE CONSIDERED PRIVILEGED ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AND REPORTED BY

REDACTED

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REDACTED

Petitioner: Reverend Sean Cronin
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

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30 day of June, 2010

Reverend Sean Cronin

CURRICULUM VITAE

DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
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CDF PROT. N. (*if available*)	782/2004-22104
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PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	Date of Birth	26 October 1943	Age	66+
	Ordination	Deacon: 7 Oct 1967 Priest: 8 Sept 1973	Years of ministry	
ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION		Dublin, Ireland		
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE		Los Angeles in California		
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC		[redacted]		
PROCURATOR (*include original signed mandate*)				
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR				

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REDACTED

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CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT

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SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AND REPORTED

REDACTED

VOTUM OF THE BISHOP OF INCARDINATION
Cardinal Roger Michael Mahony

July 9, 2010

His Holiness,
Pope Benedict XV1
00120 Vatican City State
Europe.

Your Holiness:

It is with deep sadness that I write to you regarding the petition of Sean Cronin requesting a dispensation from the obligation of sacred orders, along with a dispensation from the obligation of clerical celibacy.

Sean Cronin, born on October 26, 1943, was incardinated in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, and was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The archdiocesan seminary council recommended that Deacon Cronin not be promoted to the order of priesthood due to fears over homosexual tendencies.

For a time, Deacon Cronin exercised diaconal ministry in Africa. There, he met and was invited by the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, to come to his archdiocese. On June 13, 1973, he was excardinated from the Archdiocese of Dublin and incardinated into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. On September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

During the years that followed, Father Cronin enjoyed various priestly assignments in our archdiocese. [redacted]

REDACTED

REDACTED

In 2003, I received notice that a Mr. [redacted] had filed suit against the archdiocese charging that Father Cronin had performed egregious sexual acts upon him while [redacted] was still a minor. In that same year a M[redacted] filed charges of a similar

nature. I initiated an investigation according to the norm of law and determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela,* I provided a detailed report to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and was authorized to conduct a penal process to determine guilt or innocence on the charge of sexual abuse of a minor. Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Father Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin requested a delay in the trial pending the outcome of law suits against the archdiocese by victims of clerical sexual abuse. Now, with the help of canonical counsel, he has decided to forego the right to a judicial trial and to voluntarily petition Your Holiness for a dispensation from all the rights and obligations of a presbyter.

The allegations against Sean Cronin give evidence of a troubled life, dating back to his seminary days and lasting throughout his years of active ministry. Writing to my Promoter of Justice, the present Archbishop of Dublin, Duirmuid Martin, states that his predecessor, Archbishop McQuaid was adamant that, due to homosexual tendencies, Sean Cronin not be promoted to priesthood. Subsequently, evidence of these homosexual tendencies appear in [redacted] report and in the reports of the students themselves. Added is the aggravating circumstance of alcohol abuse while engaged in the public exercise of priestly ministry.

Even more disturbing are the allegations of sexual abuse of minors which bear a semblance of truth.

In retrospect, it seems clear that Sean Cronin was never a suitable candidate for the priesthood, and is presently not suited for active ministry. It would be for the good of the church and for Father Cronin's own good if he were to be returned to the lay state. For this reason, I hereby offer my *Votum* in favor of granting this petition.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

His Eminence
Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

July 9, 2010

His Eminence
William Cardinal Leveda, Prefect,
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith,
Piazza Del S. Ufficio,11.
00120 Vatican City.

Re: <u>REV. SEAN CRONIN</u>
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

Your Eminence:

I write to you concerning developments in the above referenced case of Rev. Sean Cronin. In the interests of completeness, information already included in my original report to the Congregation may be repeated here.

Sean Cronin, born October 26, 1943, incardinated in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies".

For a time Deacon Cronin exercised diaconal ministry in Africa. There he met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, who invited him for service in his Archdiocese. In 1972, he was assigned as a deacon to St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys). On June 13, 1973, he was incardinated into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and on September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

Father Cronin had various assignments in the archdiocese including parochial vicar, high school teacher, and chaplain/teacher at Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes, California. He spent the year 1991on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Part of the year 2000 was spent on sick leave.

[redacted] In 2003, the Archdiocese was notified that [redacted]ad filed suit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, charging that between the years 1972 to 1977, while still a minor, Father Cronin perpetrated sexual acts on him. In the same year the Archdiocese received notice of a similar suit filed by[redacted]charging that, ~~during the years 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of~~ the time in question, M[redacted]would have been a minor at civil but not at canon law.

On November 7, 2003, I initiated a preliminary investigation in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004, I determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth, and, as mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, I communicated the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. By letter, dated November 12, 2005, the

Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a panel process to determine the truth of the matter (Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Fr. Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin was notified of the pending action. In a hand written letter to my Vicar for Clergy, Msgr. Craig Cox, dated April 14, 2006, he requested a delay in the canonical trial pending the outcome of the law suits against the Archdiocese filed by victims of clerical sexual abuse. At the same time, he informed Msgr. Cox that he had given his mandate to [redacted], to represent him as his Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

In due time, Father Cronin was notified that it was opportune to begin the penal process. After consulting with canonical counsel, Father Cronin informed me of his decision to forego the right to a judicial trial and to voluntarily petition the Holy Father for a dispensation from all the obligations and rights as a presbyter. ~~The archdiocese agrees to provide for his immediate and transitional needs.~~

In my original report to the Congregation, I provided a description of the case drawn from documents on file at the Archdiocesan Curia at that time. Since then, additional information has come to light which prompts my full support of Father Cronin's decision.

The three accusations of sexual misconduct against Father Cronin are separated and unconnected[redacted] dated, February 24, 2206, outlining the sequence of events leading to the decision not to promote Sean Cronin to the order of priesthood due to "a grave fear of homosexual tendencies". In the months succeeding his dismissal from the seminary, the Archdiocese of Dublin was approached b[redacted] requesting Cronin's excardination. [redacted] responses were unambiguous; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese". In 1972, [redacted] successor granted excardination, with the caution, "the responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the bishop who accepts him"(c.f. attached letter).

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REDACTED

The [redacted] and [redacted] accusations involve the sexual abuse of minor boys. Reference is made here to a hand written letter dated March 3, 1977, by [redacted] Father Cronin's Pastor, to Archbishop Manning regarding Fr. Cronin's association with young boys (c.f. Investigative Report, p.5) That letter reads in full:

Eminence:

When we talked Sunday about Sean (Cronin) you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Clearly, Cardinal Manning and [redacted] were gravely concerned over information that had surfaced about Fr.Cronin's association with boys in Cronin's private quarters. [redacted] judged that there was doubt about the matter. He concluded; "If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future".

[redacted] observation is important in that the problem did arise in the [redacted] and [redacted] allegations. Mr. [redacted] claims that while a minor, Father Cronin abused him sexually. The alleged abuse occurred "many times over 10 years", "three to five times a week for the first couple of years" and then "approximately once a month" thereafter while the complainant was an altar boy. The abuse consisted in "mutual ejaculation", oral copulation, wrestling, "touching my anus", "simulated intercourse (over and under the clothes)", and "I would go to bed with Fr. Cronin when we stayed at the rectory".

In an interview conducted by Canonical Auditor, [redacted] on June 30, 2004, Mr. [redacted] repeated these and similar allegations. These acts are alleged to have occurred in [redacted] home and in Cronin's residences at St. Genevive's Parish, Panorama City, St. Monica Parish, Santa Monica, and, St. Michael Parish, Los Angeles. (cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp.25-36) Father Cronin denies the allegation totally.

A background check of [redacted] reveals that he was convicted of a felony (violence), and experienced other difficulties with the law. He has been married multiple times and

admits to promiscuous relationships. These facts raise concern over [redacted] credibility, and the details and scope of his allegation. Nonetheless, in light of [redacted] concern over young boys in Fr. Cronin's room, and the subsequent [redacted] allegation, it would be difficult to argue that the accuser's answers in the claimant questionnaire and his statement to the canonical investigator are a complete fabrication.

The third complainant, Mr. [redacted] describes a lengthy period of interaction between himself and Fr. Cronin whil[redacted] was a senior and Father Cronin was a teacher at St. Monica's High School, Santa Monica. The relationship began with counseling sessions and developed into grooming behaviors including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, being taken to a movie that included homosexual activity. According to Mr. [redacted] Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually, Fr. Cronin kissed him on the mouth. In conversation, Mr. [redacted] shared with Fr. Cronin that he has a birth mark on his penis [redacted] claims that Cronin asked if he could see his penis. Mr. [redacted] did not comply with the request and asked that Fr. Cronin take him home immediately. The incident severed the relationship. Interviews conducted by Mr. [redacted] with other people provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and Mr [redacted]id spent time together. (cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp. 14-25) Father Cronin denied any misconduct.

Subsequently, Mr. [redacted]sent an email to Fr. Cronin via Msgr. Cox entitled, "My Pain". The email reads in part: "Father Cronin, I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine". The purpose of the e-mail was to remind Fr. Cronin of the harm he did to Mr. [redacted]4 years earlier, the adverse effect that it is having on himself and his family, and that Fr. Cronin owes it to him, his family and the church to tell the truth. Mr. [redacted] received psychological therapy arranged and paid for through the Victim's Assistance Office of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

There are marked similarities between the [redacted]nd th[redacted]llegations. However, the [redacted] allegation alone rises to the level of a delict, which if proven, would warrant Sean Cronin's removal from the clerical state. The allegations of homosexual behavior and alcohol abuse, though very serious in themselves, would not necessarily warrant such a penalty. Nevertheless, taken cumulatively, the various allegations against Sean Cronin give evidence of a troubled life at odds with any form of priestly ministry. For these reasons, it is my judgment that Father Cronin is presently not suitable for priestly ministry and will not be in the future. I wholeheartedly support his petition to the Holy Father for a return to the lay state.

It should be noted that ever since his removal from active ministry Father Cronin has enjoyed full support from the archdiocese. In the event that the Holy Father answers affirmatively to his petition, the archdiocese agrees to provide for his immediate and transitional needs.

Please find the following attachments;

a) Father Cronin's signed petition addressed to the Holy Father requesting dispensation from all clerical obligations, including celibacy.
b) Father Cronin's *Curriculum Vitae*
c) Mandate for Father Cronin's Procurator/Advocate
d) My *Votum* addressed to the Holy Father in support of Father Cronin's Petition.
e) Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin.
f) Letter from the Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin: 24 February 2006.

Thank you for your assistance in this difficult matter.

Sincerely yours in Christ

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Apostolic Nunciature
United States of America

3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3610

No. 18260

This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

February 17, 2011

[redacted]
Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010-2241

Dear Father [redacted]

I acknowledge your kind letter of February 9, 2011, with enclosure.

Rest assured that the documentation pertaining to Reverend Sean Cronin (CDF Prot. No. 782-2004) has been forwarded through the diplomatic pouch to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

With cordial regards and best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Archbishop Pietro Sambi
Apostolic Nuncio

Archdiocese of Los Angeles [redacted] 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

9 February 2011

Most Reverend Pietro Sambi
Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687

RE: Letter to His Eminence
Cardinal William Cardinal Levada, Prefect
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
The Reverend Sean Cronin - CDF Prot. No. 782/2004

Your Excellency:

Enclosed is a letter addressed to Cardinal William Levada, Prefect of the *Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith*.

I would respectfully request that you kindly forward the enclosed letter to the Congregation.

I am very grateful for your assistance in this matter. May the Lord continue to bless you and your ministry.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[redacted]
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Enclosure

Archdiocese of Los Angeles [redacted] 3424 Wilshire Boulevard Los Angeles California 90010-2241

9 February 2011

His Eminence
William Cardinal Levada, Prefect
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Palazzo del S. Ufizio
00120 Città del Vaticano

RE: The Revered Sean Cronin – CDF Prot. No. 782/2004

Your Eminence:

Enclosed please find the fully executed rescript for Sean Cronin dated 26 January 2011.

With gratitude and esteem, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[redacted]
Delegate of the Archbishop of Los Angeles

Enclosure

FILE COPY

CONGREGATIO PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

Prot. N. 782/2004

Angelorum in California
(Los Angeles, U.S.A..)

D.nus Sean **CRONIN**, presbyter huius arcidioecesis, humiliter petit dispensationem ab omnibus oneribus sacrae Ordinationi conexis

---

Summus Pontifex Benedictus, Papa XVI

Die 10 m. Decembris a. 2010

habita relatione de casu a Congregatione pro Doctrina Fidei, precibus praedicti sacerdotis annuit iuxta sequentes rationes:

1. Dispensationis Rescriptum a competenti Ordinario oratori quamprimum notificandum est:

   a) Eius effectum sortitur a momento notificationis;
   b) Rescriptum amplectitur inseparabiliter dispensationem a sacro coelibatu et simul amissionem status clericalis. Nunquam oratori fas est duo illa elementa seiungere, seu prius accipere et alterum recusare;
   c) Si vero orator est religiosus, Rescriptum concedit etiam dispensationem a votis;
   d) Idemque insuper secumfert, quatenus opus sit, absolutionem a censuris.

2. Notificatio dispensationis fieri potest vel personaliter ab ipso Ordinario eiusve delegato aut per ecclesiasticum actuarium vel per "epistulas praescriptas" (*registered*). Ordinarius unum exemplar restituere debet rite ab oratore subsignatum ad fidem receptionis. Rescripti dispensationis ac simul acceptationis eiusdem praeceptorum.

3. Notitia concessae dispensationis adnotetur in Libris baptizatorum paroeciae oratoris.

4. Quod attinet, si casus ferat, ad celebrationem canonici matrimonii, applicandae sunt normae quae in Codice Iuris Canonici statuuntur. Ordinarius vero curet ut res caute peragantur sine exteriore apparatu.

5. Auctoritas ecclesiastica, cui spectat Rescriptum oratori rite notificare, hunc enixe hortetur, ut vitam Populi Dei, ratione congruendi cum nova eius vivendi condicione, participet, aedificationem praestet et ita probum Ecclesiae filium se exhibeat. Simul autem eidem notum faciat ea quae sequuntur:

a) Sacerdos dispensatus eo ipso amittit iura statui clericali propria, dignitates et officia ecclesiastica; ceteris obligationibus cum statu clericali conexis non amplius adstringitur;
b) exclusus manet ab exercitio sacri ministerii, iis exceptis de quibus in can. 976 et 986 § 2 CJC ac propterea nequit homiliam habere, nec potest officium gerere directivum in ambitu pastorali neve munere administratoris paroecialis fungi;
c) item nullum munus absolvere potest in Seminariis et in Institutis aequiparatis. In aliis Institutis studiorum gradus superioris, quae quocumque modo dependent ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo fungi nequit;
d) in aliis vero Institutis studiorum gradus superioris ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica non dependentibus nullam theologicam disciplinam tradere potest;
e) in Institutis autem studiorum gradus inferioris dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica, munere directivo vel officio docendi fungi nequit. Eadem lege tenetur presbyter dimissus ac dispensatus in tradendo Religione in Institutis eiusdem generis non dependentibus ab Auctoritate ecclesiastica.

6. Ordinarius curet, quantum fieri potest, ne nova condicio presbyteri dispensati fidelibus scandalum praebeat. Attamen, si adest periculum minoribus abutendi, Ordinarius potest factum dispensationis necnon causam canonicam divulgare.

7. Tempore autem opportuno, Ordinarius competens breviter ad Congregationem de peracta notificatione referat, et si qua tandem fidelium admiratio adsit, prudenti explicatione provideat.

Contrariis quibuscumque minime obstantibus.

Ex Aedibus Congregationis, die 10 m. Decembris a. 2010

William Card. Levada

Gulielmus Cardinalis LEVADA
Praefectus

+ Luis Ladaria

✠ Aloisius Franciscus LADARIA, S.I.
Archiep. titularis Thibicen.
a Secretis

Dies notificationis 26 Jan 2011

Subsignatio Presbyteri in signum acceptionis

Subsignatio Ordinarii

Thomas C. Anslow

CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 *Città del Vaticano,* 17 December 2010
Palazzo del S. Uffizio

PROT. N. 782/2004 - 34068
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Eminence,

On 23 July 2010 you presented and supported the petition of the **Rev. Sean CRONIN**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, who has been accused of sexual abuse of minors and has requested from the Holy Father the grace of dispensation from all the obligations of the clerical state, including celibacy.

This Congregation, after having carefully examined the documents of the present case and in light of the *votum* expressed by Your Eminence, decided to forward the petition to the Holy Father for his decision. Subsequently, on 10 December 2010, Pope Benedict XVI granted the Rev. Sean Cronin the grace of dispensation from all priestly obligations, including celibacy.

Enclosed you will find two copies of the relevant Decree. Your Eminence is kindly requested to ensure that Mr. Cronin is duly notified thereof. As specified in the paragraph 3 of the Decree, the fact that he has been dispensed from all the obligations connected with sacred ordination and has lost the clerical state should also be inscribed in his baptismal record. I would kindly ask you to return one of the signed copies of the Decree to this Office.

Grateful for your assistance in this sensitive matter and with fraternal regards, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

William Card. Levada

William Cardinal LEVADA
Prefect

(Enclosures)

His Eminence
Roger Cardinal MAHONY
Archbishop of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2202
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

March 13, 2009

Cronin

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

As you will recall, you sent a letter to my predecessor, Monsignor Craig Cox, dated April 14, 2006, requesting a delay in your canonical trial authorized the previous March by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, pending the settlement of the civil lawsuits against the Archdiocese.

I am now writing to inform you that we are ready to proceed and to request that you and your Advocate attend a meeting to discuss the possible courses of action in your case.

In light of the material sent to Rome and given our experience of these matters to date, three alternative courses of action suggest themselves: a) for you to petition to be freed from the obligations of the clerical state; b) an administrative process according to canon 1720; c) a formal penal trial already authorized by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; options 'a' and 'b' are each available should you so choose.

While it remains for you to decide on a suitable course of action in consultation with your Advocate, the purpose of the meeting would be to answer any questions either of you may have. Once we have learned your decision in the matter, we will proceed to the next appropriate step.

Accordingly, I ask that you come with your Canonical Advocate to a meeting on Monday, March 23, 2009, in the Vicar for Clergy Office. The meeting will be earlier or later in the day depending on Mr[redacted] travel needs. [redacted] will attend the meeting a[redacted] and Father [redacted]

Please let me know if you and Mr[redacted] will attend the meeting at the time and place indicated above, or if you need to use an alternative date.

Mindful that this is a painful and serious business, I assure you of my prayers for your well-being.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Monsignor Gabriel Gonzales
Vicar for Clergy

cc: Mr. Charles Renati
[redacted]

November 9, 2004

His Eminence
Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11
00120 Vatican City
EUROPE

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. Father Cronin has been accused of *graviora delicta.*

Enclosed, please find the pages summarizing the nature of this case, as well as copies of materials assembled from Father Cronin's file and during our investigation.

Sean Cronin was born on October 26, 1943. He was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland. He was not ordained a priest, but served as a deacon for a time as a missionary in Africa. He met the former Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He began serving as a deacon in this Archdiocese in 1982, was incardinated, and then ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyter in 1973. He has served in a number of assignments until July 2004 when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, masturbation and oral copulation. A preliminary investigation was initiated on November 7, 2003.

On June 30, 2004 [redacted] was interviewed by a canonical auditor. During the interview, [redacted] stated that his contact and relationship with Father Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971 or 1972 (when [redacted] was eleven or twelve years old) to 1977 and about seventeen years old. He claimed that Father Cronin performed approximately seventy or more sexual acts on him including rubbing [redacted] with his exposed genitals and ejaculating on [redacted]s partially nude body.

This allegation of abusive activity on the part of Father Cronin did not emerge in a vacuum. At various points in his priesthood, information had come to officials of the Archdiocese indicating

inappropriate and imprudent contacts between Father Cronin and others. As early as 1977, the pastor of the parish where Father Cronin was serving as parochial vicar discussed concerns about Father Cronin's contact with boys with the then Archbishop, Cardinal Manning. Unfortunately, information about this is sketchy, but the fact of the concern is verified in a letter from the pastor, [redacted] The letter references two discussions between Cardinal Manning and [redacted] both of whom are now deceased, about Father Cronin's, "association with boys in his room."

REDACTED

In 2003 an official of the Archdiocese was notified through legal channels that a lawsuit was also filed against the Archdiocese [redacted] M[redacted] charged that from 1979 to 1982, during part of which time he was a minor at civil law, Father Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner. Please note that [redacted] was not a minor at canon law during this period. On April 16, 2004, Mr. [redacted] was interviewed by a canonical auditor. [redacted] stated that when he was a senior in high school he met Father Cronin who was a teacher. He claimed that, under the auspices of counseling sessions in Father Cronin's quarters and at a restaurant, Father Cronin supplied him with alcoholic drinks, engaged him in sexual conversations, kissed him on the cheek and took him to a movie with homosexual content. Subsequently, the relationship escalated to Father Cronin kissing [redacted] on the mouth and requesting to view Mr. [redacted] genitals.

In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law, and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth. He was thus placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* (no.13), I hereby refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. I am attaching the report of the canonical auditor summarizing the findings of the investigation.

Also, it is important to add that Father Cronin has had problems with alcohol abuse to the degree that an intervention and residential treatment was required. The impact of this fact on the substance of this case, if any, has not been established.

Father Cronin has not yet been heard by a canonical ~~investigator.~~ He indicated that he wished to seek canonical advice before determining whether to consent to an interview. To the best of my knowledge, he has not yet selected a canonical advisor. Through his civil attorney, however, Father Cronin asserts that he is innocent of all allegations.

The sole allegation that qualifies as *graviora delicta* is that brought by [redacted]. This allegation, especially seen in the context of other indications and allegations of sexual misconduct, leads to a suspicion of some wrong doing of a sexual nature on the part of Father Cronin. Note that [redacted] allegation is presented in the context of a financial claim being made. Court records show that on several occasions [redacted] has problems with the law. Obviously, these facts require necessitate care in assessing the credibility of his accusations, an assessment that I believe can best be made in the context of an ecclesiastical trial.

My greatest concern is that justice be done to [redacted] if he genuinely was victimized, as well as to Father Cronin, if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and authorization to initiate a formal penal trial, with a view to imposing the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state on Father Cronin if he is found to be guilty of the delict. In my assessment, only by means of a trial can the evidence can be fully assessed, additional evidence sought as necessary, and a determination be made with moral certitude that will be credible to the people of this Archdiocese.

Should the Congregation not concur with this request for a trial, I would very much appreciate direction as to how to proceed.

Thank you for your attention to this difficult matter. Please be assured of my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

attachments

REDACTED

October 6, 2009

REDACTED

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Re: Reverend Sean Cronin

DeaREDACTED

Thank you for your letters of September 28 and 30, 2009 with enclosures in the latter.

With regard to your request for a copy of Father Cronin's 2008 Federal Tax Returns, I must admit that I am at a loss to know how these private documents would be of value in "reviewing the needs that Father Cronin has, as indicated in your (my) letter." Please let me know for what precise purpose this tax information is sought and its relevance to the issue of expenses. If there is a question about any item of expense contained in my list we would be happy to discuss it and/or verify it.

I have read and will discuss REDACTED memo with Fr. Cronin. The Archdiocese pays for the legal fees and expenses of clerics who are named defendants in even a civil suit. Were Fr. Cronin to be sued personally as a layman, however, for actions committed during his clerical life (whatever the likelihood of that might be) he would seemingly have to pay for his own defense. By voluntarily giving up the clerical life he would, therefore, be making himself liable for this contingent expense.

Father Cronin will be leaving for a long planned vacation to Ireland and England and will return around the 15th of November. I will be back Thursday evening, October 15 and will be available thereafter.

Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation in this case,

Respectfully and sincerely yours
REDACTED

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

September 8, 2009

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Church
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

This is to confirm in writing that our meeting has been scheduled for Friday, September 18, 2009 at 1:30 PM. This meeting will be held in the Cardinal's Conference Room located on the fifth floor.

Present at this meeting will be [redacted] Monsignor Michael Meyers, [redacted]

Thank you for taking note of this information.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

cc: [redacted]

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

August 27, 2009

[redacted]

Dear M[redacted]

I would like to acknowledge the phone conversation we had on Monday, August 24th regarding Reverend Sean Cronin. At this time, the Archdiocese continues to wait for you and Father Cronin to review his financial needs so that we might continue discussions for possible resolutions of his status.

It is hoped that by September 15th Father Cronin will be sufficiently ready that we can begin to look for a date for a meeting with him and you.

I thank you for your efforts to represent and assist Father Cronin at this time. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Michael Meyers

Monsignor Michael Meyers
Vicar for Clergy

MEMORANDUM

TO: [redacted]

FROM: Monsignor Michael Meyers MM

DATE: August 24, 2009

RE: [redacted]RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

I spoke to M[redacted]by phone today.

M[redacted]has been calling Fr. Cronin for a week. He is still trying to get a list of expenses from him. Mr[redacted]also wants to get this resolved and will continue to try to contact him and get the information needed to make decisions.

Still undetermined as far as trial/laicization request

SECOND ROUGH DRAFT

CRONIN

June 4, 2009

Dear ,

On July 1, 2009, I will become the Vicar for Clergy, replacing Msgr. Gabriel Gonzales.

You have asked for some clarification about benefits available to the Reverend Sean Cronin. Perhaps these initial indications may help to answer your concerns.

1. [redacted]
2. Reverend Sean Cronin has 434 months of accumulated service.
3. REDACTED
4.
5. REDACTED
6. be

I am hopeful that this initial information is helpful, and I would be happy to discuss with you in more detail the possibilities for negotiated payments.

With personal best wishes,

Rev. Msgr. Michael Meyers
Associate Vicar for Clergy

CRONIN

MEMORANDUM

REDACTED

TO:

Vicar for Clergy

FROM: REDACTED

DATE: May 14, 2009

SUBJECT: **INFORMATION CONCERNING REVEREND SEAN CRONIN**

In response to your question on benefits available to Reverend Sean Cronin, I can confirm the following:

REDACTED

My Receives Files
Re. Cronin

/

REV. SEAN CRONIN
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

Species Facti:

Sean Cronin, born October 26, 1943, incardinated in the diocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies". For a time he exercised the order of deacon in Africa. He met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited by him to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He began serving as a deacon at St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys) in 1972. On June 13, 1973, he was incardinated into the Archdiocese, and on September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Genevieve Parish. In the years that followed he served in various assignments in the archdiocese as parochial vicar, high school teacher, and as chaplain at Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes. In 1991 he spent time on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. He spent part of the year 2000 on sick leave.

In 2003, officials of the Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was between the ages of twelve to eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him. In that same year the Archdiocese was notified that a law suit was filed against the Archdiocese by [redacted] charging that from 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of that time, he would have been a minor at civil but not canon law.

On November 7, 2003, A preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, the Cardinal Archbishop determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, the matter was communicated to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. After having carefully examined the *Acta* ,and in light of Cardinal Mahony's comments, on November 12, 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a panel process (Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Fr. Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

In a hand written letter to Msgr. Cox, Vicar for Clergy, dated April 14, 2006, Fr. Cronin requested that the canonical trial be delayed pending the outcome of the law suits ~~pending~~ against the Archdiocese. In that same letter ~~that~~ he stated ~~time~~ that he had given his mandate to [redacted] to represent him as Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

2

THE ALLEGATION OF REDACTED

Claimant Questionnaire: declared and signed under penalty of perjury, June 29, 2004.

REDACTED

Shou
be li

Sean Cronin:

1 .Apparently two allegations, [redacted] If proven, both of these complaints would be delicts.

2. The file I have does not contain the preliminary investigation, the report to Rome.

3 Problems seem to date back to his seminary days in Ireland. There is a trail of suspicion going back to the point when, having been ordained to the diaconate, he is refused ordination to the priesthood.

4. Based on a report sent to Rome, CDF authorized a trial regarding the delict of sexual abuse of a minor dated November 12, 2005.

5. In a hand written letter to Msgr. Cox, dated April 14, 2006, requested that a canonical trial be delayed until after the settlement of the law suits. He noted at that time that he had given his mandate to [redacted] to represent him as his canonical advocate.

6. As the matter stands, it appears that he could not be returned to ministry.

7 Where is he now? What is his association with the diocese? Is the diocese supporting him? What would be his stance relative to a trial/ laicization?

8. Suggest that somebody find the answers to these questions. That person should probably have CMOB recommendation before talking with him.

9. Preferable that he apply for laicization. If he chooses not to, the Cardinal has an obligation to act. Possible options:

a) Imposed laicization.
b) Administrative penal process (c.1720)
c) Formal Trial. (This should be the very last resort).

Sean Cronin:

1 .Apparently two allegations, [redacted]. If proven, both of these complaints would be delicts.

2. The file I have does not contain the preliminary investigation, the report to Rome.

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b) Administrative penal process (c.1720)
c) Formal Trial. (This should be the very last resort).

REDACTED

20D. Rec'd 5/28

REDACTED

Computer e mail down - 5/24 - 5/27 holiday

From: REDACTED

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 11:02 PM

To: REDACTED

Subject: Misconduct

Dear REDACTED

I have often pondered if I should have reported what I felt was misconduct by a priest before now. I only did not do so for the protection of the priest and the church. I often felt that maybe I was somehow responsible for his behavior towards me. I befriended the priest in question when I was a senior in high school. I was going through a difficult time coming to terms with the divorce of my parents and the early symptoms of substance abuse. The priest in question began helping me and meeting with me on a regular basis to talk about my problems and God. He would pick me up at my parents house on a weekly basis and we would go to dinner, where we drank alcohol, and then return to his residence to talk. Again, he always served me and himself alcohol. Our sessions often turned to discussions about sex. I remember him being very interested in the subject. At the end of our meeting we would hug. He then started kissing me on the lips. I was startled. He told me that in european cultures this was acceptable between men. He was Irish. He once took me to A Dutch film that dealt with a young man who was confronting his homosexuality. He felt that it was a film I should see. It did have sexual content with gay sex. The final incident for me was when I had told him that I had a birthmark on my penis. One night he asked if he could see it. I became angry and told him I never wanted to see him again. I was crushed. I felt that I had caused this. He betrayed my trust. I honestly feel that this would have and could have developed into a more serious situation had I not put an end to it. It's important to note that this all began when I was 17 and ended when I was 18. What do you think ???

REDACTED

5/28
5/28 m. 2pm Responded: I am sorry ... REDACTED
Gave email address
- give alleged perpetrator
- place of incidents
- your name
It will be handled with respect

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2002 11:24 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: Misconduct

Dear REDACTED

Thank you for getting back to me. I've forwarded my allegations to Detective REDACTED as you suggested. I would rather not make this a police matter. I certainly would not any legal action taken against this man because I honestly feel this is a matter for the church and he should be diciplined accordingly. The misconduct occured 20 years ago and has been a burden for me. I'm very concerned for my privacy and certainly would not want my family involved in any way. If I was to go forward with a police report, what would happen to the priest in question ???

REDACTED

MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL

To: Cardinal Roger Mahony

From: Monsignor Richard Loomis

Date: Thursday, October 14, 1999

Re: Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

Yes

Yes

REDACTED

REDACTED

Depending on the results reported by the psychiatrist and REDACTED REDACTED further intervention might be necessary.

Father's visible distress in responding to the allegations during our meeting prompted us to offer him the help and support of a therapist. It was obvious that,

[redacted] Doctor [redacted] requests that Father Cronin be transferred to a different ministry in the Archdiocese in the near future – perhaps as early as February, or July at the latest.

Yes, I believe we need to move Sean into a ministry where more monitoring can take place – a busy parish with a sound pastor.

+RMM

10-14-99

MEMORANDUM

To: Cardinal Roger Mahony

From: Monsignor Richard Loomis *RAL*

Date: Friday, January 07, 2000

Re: Father Sean Cronin

t for

[redacted]

I concur - please proceed -

+ RMM

1-9-2000

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Substance Abuse Ministry
Office (213) 637-7644
Residence (213) 223-8082

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2241

Memo
Feb. 10, 2000
To: Cardinal Roger Mahony
From[redacted]
Re: Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

REDACTED

Cc: Msgr. Richard Loomis

PLACED ON AMINISTRATIVE LEAVE

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

July 13, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Let me begin by assuring you of my prayers in this difficult time. If I can be of service to you, please let me know.

This letter is to confirm in writing the essential content of our meeting today. I indicated to you that, since the filing of the two lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of minors on your part, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with canon 1717. I explained that, in the course of this investigation, a canonical auditor has been able to interview the two plaintiffs and has conducted further investigations. I also explained that the canonical auditor very much wishes to have an opportunity to interview you about these allegations. You are welcome to have a canonical advisor present at that interview. We hope to be able to schedule a day and time for that interview as soon as reasonably possible.

Second, I indicated that the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board has several times examined the allegations brought against you. Initially, the Board recommended you be maintained in ministry as the investigation commenced. In its most recent review, the Board recommended that the investigation had progressed to a point where it was now appropriate to place you on administrative leave. Cardinal Mahony has approved the Board's recommendation. The leave became effective on this date at the time I personally notified you.

Please note that being placed on administrative leave does not involve any final judgment on our part that the allegations are true or false. It does reflect the fact that, as a result of the progress of the preliminary investigation, a formal canonical process is warranted. After you have the opportunity to be interviewed, the Cardinal will remand this matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith as required by the Apostolic Letter *Sacrmentorum sanctitatis tutela*. Administrative leave is a step taken to protect both you and others as the canonical process unfolds and leads to a final determination.

During this time of leave, I direct that you engage in no public ministry without my specific authorization or that of the Cardinal. I hereby issue the warning of canon 1347 to inform you that any violation of this prohibition would render you liable to canonical penalties.

During your administrative leave, you are to leave your residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish as soon as reasonably possible and take up residence in a place we mutually agree upon. During your leave, your salary and benefits will be paid by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese will also reimburse you for the reasonable expenses of a canonical advocate.

During this traumatic time, let me renew my invitation to make use of one of our counselors to assist you in dealing with the stresses and tensions that being on a leave necessarily entails.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers. May the Lord guide and strengthen you with the blessings you need!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 14 July 2004

Last night I spoke with Father Cronin and placed him on administrative leave.

He mentioned that he had agreed to do a funeral on Friday morning for a family that specifically asked for him. The Pastor is on vacation and the Associate just arrived in the parish. For Father Cronin not to do this funeral would cause distress and raise questions. He asked about authorization to do that funeral.

I indicated that I understood the situation, and that I did not want rumors circulating in the parish before we make our weekend announcements. I told him I would consult.

I phoned by Cardinal Mahony and [redacted] Both agreed with me that it was appropriate to authorize Father Cronin to handle the funeral liturgies. I informed Father Cronin of this by phone this morning.

REDACTED

DIARMUID MARTIN
ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN LETTER FROM

24th February 2006

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

REDACTED

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90010-2202
United States of America

REDACTED
Dear

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

The following is a report of the interview of REDACTED
by Canonical Investigator REDACTED

INTERVIEW OF REDACTED
REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

VOTUM OF THE ORDINARY OF INCARDINATION

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger,

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. He has been accused of graviora delicta. Born on October 26, 1943, he is now 61 years old. He enjoyed various assignments within the Archdiocese, beginning at his ordination to the Priesthood in 1973 and lasting until July 2004, when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, masturbation and oral copulation. On June 30, 2004, [redacted] was interviewed by a Canonical Investigator. During the interview Mr. [redacted] stated that his contact and relationship with Father Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971 or 1972 when [redacted] was eleven or twelve years old, to 1977 and about seventeen years old. He claims that Father Cronin performed approximately seventy or more sexual acts on him including rubbin[redacted] with his exposed genitals and ejaculating on Mr. [redacted] partially nude body.

Inquiries regarding Father Cronin's boundary crossing with children were initially made in 1977 and are contained in a letter from the pastor of the parish in which Father Cronin was then serving as a parochial vicar. The letter references two discussions between Cardinal Timothy Manning, now deceased, and [redacted] now deceased, about Father Cronin's, "association with boys in his room".

REDACTED

[redacted]

In 2003 an official of the Archdiocese was notified through legal channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by [redacted] charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor at civil law, Father Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner. On April 16, 2004, M[redacted] was interviewed by a canonical investigator. Mr. [redacted] stated that when he was a senior in high school he met Father Cronin who was a teacher. He advised that under the auspices of counseling sessions in Father Cronin's quarters and at a restaurant, Father Cronin supplied him with alcoholic drinks, engaged him in sexual conversations, kissed him on the cheek and took him to a movie with homosexual content. Subsequently, the relationship escalated to Father Cronin kissing Mr[redacted] on the mouth and requesting to view Mr[redacted] genitals.

In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law , and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised

against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth, and he was placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of universal law (Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela, no.13), I now refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The sole allegation that qualifies as graviora delicta is that brought by Mr. [redacted] It is raised in the context of other allegations of sexual misconduct which leads to a suspicion of some wrong doing of a sexual nature on the part of Father Cronin. [redacted] llegation is being done in the context of a financial claim being made. Court records show that Mr. [redacted] as himself , on several occasions, had problems with the law. Father Cronin has had problems of his own with alcohol abuse necessitating residential treatment. The impact of this fact on the substance of this case, if any, has not been established. Father Cronin has not yet been heard by a canonical investigator. Through his civil attorney he pleads innocent of all allegations. Cleraly, the investigation conducted thus far is inconclusive.

My greatest concern is that justice be done [redacted] if he genuinely was victimized, and to Father Cronin if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and be authorized to initiate a formal trial. Should the Congregation not concur with my request, may I please receive direction as to how to proceed.

Sincerely Yours in Christ.

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony,

VOTUM OF THE ORDINARY OF INCARDINATION

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger,

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. He has been accused of <u>graviora delicta.</u> Born on October 26, 1943, he is [redacted] now 61 years old. He enjoyed various assignments within the Archdiocese, beginning at [redacted] his ordination to the Priesthood in 1973 and lasting until July 2004, when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, [redacted] masturbation and oral copulation. On June 30, 2004, [redacted] was interviewed by a [redacted] Canonical Investigator. During the interview Mr [redacted] stated that his contact and relationship with Father Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971 or 1972 when [redacted] was eleven or twelve years old, to 1977 and about seventeen years old. He claims that Father Cronin performed approximately seventy or more sexual acts on him including rubbing [redacted] with his exposed genitals and ejaculating on Mr [redacted] partially nude body.

THIS ALLEGATION OF EGREGIOUS ACTIVITY DID NOT EMERGE IN A VACUUM.

Inquiries regarding Father Cronin's boundary crossing with children were initially made in 1977 and are contained in a letter from the pastor of the parish in which Father Cronin was then serving as a parochial vicar. The letter references two discussions between Cardinal Timothy Manning, now deceased, and [redacted], now deceased, about Father Cronin's, "association with boys in his room".

REDACTED

[redacted]

In 2003 an official of the Archdiocese was notified through legal channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by [redacted] charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor at civil law, THOUGH NOT AT CANON LAW, Father Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner. On April 16, 2004, Mr [redacted] was interviewed by a canonical investigator. Mr. [redacted] stated that when he was a senior in high school he met Father Cronin who was a teacher. He advised that under the auspices of counseling sessions in Father Cronin's quarters and at a restaurant, Father Cronin supplied him with alcoholic drinks, engaged him in sexual conversations, kissed him on the cheek and took him to a movie with homosexual content. Subsequently, the relationship escalated to Father Cronin kissing Mr. [redacted] on the mouth and requesting to view Mr. [redacted] genitals.

In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law , and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised

against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth, and he was placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of universal law (Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela, no.13), I now refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The sole allegation that qualifies as graviora delicta is that brought by Mr. REDACTED It is raised in the context of other allegations of sexual misconduct which leads to a suspicion of ~~some~~ A PATTERN OVER MANY YEARS OF wrong doing of a sexual nature on the part of Father Cronin. REDACTED allegation is ~~being done~~ BROUGHT FORWARD in the context of a financial claim being made. Court records show that REDACTED has himself, on several occasions, had problems with the law. REDACTED

REDACTED The impact of this fact on the substance of this case, if any, has not been established. Father Cronin has not yet been heard by a canonical investigator. REDACTED Through his civil attorney he pleads innocent of all allegations. Cleraly, the investigation REDACTED conducted thus far ~~is inconclusive.~~ REDACTED REDACTED

My greatest concern is that justice be done to REDACTED if he genuinely was victimized, and to Father Cronin if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and be authorized to initiate a formal trial. Should the Congregation not concur with my request, may I please receive direction as to how to proceed.

REDACTED

Sincerely Yours in Christ.

REDACTED

against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth, and he was placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of universal law (Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela, no.13), I now refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The sole allegation that qualifies as graviora delicta is that brought by Mr. [redacted] is raised in the context of other allegations of sexual misconduct which leads to a suspicion of some wrong doing of a sexual nature on the part of Father Cronin. [redacted] allegation is being done in the context of a financial claim being made. Court records show that Mr[redacted] has himself , on several occasions, had problems with the law. Father Cronin has had problems of his own with alcohol abuse necessitating residential treatment. The impact of this fact on the substance of this case, if any, has not been established. Father Cronin has not yet been heard by a canonical investigator. Through his civil attorney he pleads innocent of all allegations. Cleraly, the investigation conducted thus far is inconclusive.

My greatest concern is that justice be done to Mr.[redacted] if he genuinely was victimized, and to Father Cronin if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and be authorized to initiate a formal trial. Should the Congregation not concur with my request, may I please receive direction as to how to proceed.

Sincerely Yours in Christ.

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony,

Inquiries regarding Father Cronin's boundary crossing with children were initially made in 1977 and are contained in a letter from the pastor of the parish in which Father Cronin was then serving as a parochial vicar. The letter references two discussions betweer REDACTED now deceased, and REDACTED now deceased, about Father Cronin's, "association with boys in his room".

REDACTED

In 2003 an official of the Archdiocese was notified through legal channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by REDACTED charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor at civil law, Father Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner. On April 16, 2004 REDACTED was interviewed by a canonical investigator. Mr. REDACTED tated that when he was a senior in high school he met Father Cronin who was a teacher. He advised that under the auspices of counseling sessions in Father Cronin's quarters and at a restaurant, Father Cronin supplied him with alcoholic drinks, engaged him in sexual conversations, kissed him on the cheek and took him to a movie with homosexual content. Subsequently, the relationship escalated to Father Cronin kissing REDACTED on the mouth and requesting to view REDACTED genitals.

In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law , and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised

VOTUM OF THE ORDINARY OF INCARDINATION

His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger,

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. He has been accused of graviora delicta. Born on October 26, 1943, he is now 61 years old. He enjoyed various assignments within the Archdiocese, beginning at his ordination to the Priesthood in 1973 and lasting until July 2004, when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, masturbation and oral copulation. On June 30, 2004, [redacted] was interviewed by a Canonical Investigator. During the interview [redacted] stated that his contact and relationship with Father Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971 or 1972 when [redacted] was eleven or twelve years old, to 1977 and about seventeen years old. He claims that Father Cronin performed approximately seventy or more sexual acts on him including rubbing [redacted] with his exposed genitals and ejaculating on Mr. [redacted] partially nude body.

[redacted]

To Cardinal Manning

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
311 NORTH RAYMOND AVENUE
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91103

[redacted]

TEL. 792-418:

Friday, March 3rd 1977.

Eminence;

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2202

COPY FOR YOUR INFORMATION

June 10, 2010

REDACTED

[redacted]

Dear REDACTED

May I acknowledge your letter of June 7, 2010. As you requested, I have signed both copies and have returned to you for your files and for Fr. Cronin, one of the signed copies. I have your signature and my signature on another copy which is here in the file for Fr. Cronin. I will be working with REDACTED and will be awaiting the Petition for Laicization which will, I believe, be sent here to the Archdiocese and then on to Rome.

Thank you for all of your work in this case and things that are listed in the four bullets on my letter of February 26, 2010 will become effective when Fr. Cronin signs the Decree of Laicization.

With personal best wishes

REDACTED

c: REDACTED

REDACTED
REDACTED

June 7, 2010

REDACTED

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90010

Re: Reverend Sean Cronin:

Dear REDACTED

REDACTED

This clarification, in conjunction with the financial arrangement stated in your letter of February 26, 2010, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, constitute the total financial consideration given by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to Father Sean Cronin in exchange for his waiving his right to a canonical penal trial and voluntarily petitioning for laicization.

As stated in your letter, these financial arrangements will commence when Fr. Cronin signs the Decree of Laicization.

If this represents your understanding of the agreement please sign and return a copy of this letter so that Father Cronin may have it for his records

Thank you for your continued kindness and cooperation,

Respectfully and sincerely yours,
REDACTED

REDACTED

Procurator for Rev. Sean Cronin

Date: June 10, 2010

REDACTED

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2202

February 26, 2010

REDACTED

[redacted]

RE: Fr. Sean Cronin

Dear REDACTED

REDACTED

Finally, all of these arrangements will become activated when Fr. Cronin signs the Decree of Laicization.

Simply let me know if these are acceptable to Fr. Cronin.

With personal best wishes,

REDACTED

REDACTED

June 1, 2010

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire boulevard
Los Angeles , California 90010

Re: Reverend Sean Cronin

Dear REDACTED

I am enclosing a copy of the Petition which I drafted for Sean and sent to him for his signature. If you feel that what is said therein is not sufficient, please let me know and I will re-write it.

I also enclose a copy of the form for Sean's curriculum vitae which you said you would prepare in a separate document to be presented with the petition. Please send me a copy of this curriculum when you have completed it.

I will send you the signed petition as soon as I receive it.l

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

REDACTED

782/2004/22104
Do we need this?

Petitioner: Reverend Sean Cronin
CDF Prot. N _______________

PETITION FOR DISPENSATION FROM ALLCLERICAL OBLIGATIONS, INCLUDING CELIBACY

His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI
Apostolic Palace
00120 Vatican City

Dear Holy Father:

In a spirit of humility I come before you to ask that I be dispensed from all clerical obligations, including celibacy.

I am a priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. I attach a copy of my *curriculum vitae* to this petition.

I am 66 years old. I was ordained in 1973 and was in active ministry in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles until July 13, 2004 when I was placed on administrative leave and enjoined from public ministry. This leave resulted from two allegations of sexual misconduct with minors which allegedly occurred 20-25 years before.

In 2006 the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith authorized a canonical penal trial to be conducted regarding these allegations. I was given the choice to have the trial start at that time or to postpone it until after the civil suits had been settled. I elected the postponement The trial has not yet commenced.

After much thought, prayer and consultation with my canonical counsel, and faced with the fact that my active ministry as a priest is effectively over, I have decided to forego the penal trial and to voluntarily petition for laicization. I believe that this decision is in the best interest of myself, the Church and the Archdiocese. I have been on leave for six years and a trial started now could extend that time by years without any assurance of what my position will be at the end of that trial and thereafter. At 66 and with some health conditions, I can now plan for my remaining years with some certainty about my future and my means of support if I now make and am granted this petition.

Asking Your Holiness to look favorably upon this petition, I remain

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Given in Los Angeles on this
____day of June, 2010

____
Reverend Sean Cronin

re: Sean Cronin

REDACTED

Case: Reverend [PETITIONER]

CURRICULUM VITAE OF PETITIONER

1. Name: [PETITIONER]
2. Date of Birth:
3. Place of Birth:
4. Parents:
5. Brothers and Sisters (Names and Dates of Birth)
6. Baptismal Information

   Date:
   Church:
   Place:

7. Education

   Elementary school:
   High school:
   College:
   Theology:

8. Orders Received (Date, Place, Ordaining prelate)

   Candidacy:
   Ministry of Reader:
   Ministry of Acolyte
   Diaconate:
   Priesthood:

9. Priestly assignments
10. Date of Departure from the active ministry
11. Residences since departure
12. Present residence
13. Specific grounds for Petition
14. Reasons in support of grounds.

> already in the Petition itself

REDACTED

FAX SHEET

REDACTED

FOR

1) Petition – 1 page
2) curriculum vitae form – 1 page
3) Letter, REDACTED to REDACTED 6/1/10 – 1 page

CURRICULUM VITAE

DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
NAME OF ORDINARY	Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
CDF PROT. N. (*if available*)	782/2004-22104
NAME OF CLERIC	Rev. Sean Cronin

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	**Date of Birth**	26 October 1943	**Age**	
	Ordination	Deacon: 7 Oct 1967 Priest: 8 Sept 1973	**Years of ministry**	

ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION	Dublin, Ireland
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC	[redacted]
PROCURATOR (*include original signed mandate*)	
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR	

ASSIGNMENTS

Year	Parish	Location	Appointment
1972	St. Genevieve	Panorama City (Van Nuys), California	Deacon
1973	St. Genevieve	Panorama City (Van Nuys), California	Parochial Vicar
1973			Incardinated in Archdiocese of Los Angeles on 13 June 1973
1975	St. Andrew	Pasadena, California	Parochial Vicar
1977	St. Monica High School	Santa Monica, California	Faculty
1977	St. Monica Parish	Santa Monica, California	Parochial Vicar
1979	St. Michael High School	Los Angeles, California	Faculty
1979	St. Michael Parish	Los Angeles, California	Resident
1982	St. Helen	South Gate, California	Resident
1984-2000	Marymount College	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA	Chaplain
1984	Sts. Peter and Paul	Wilmington, California	Resident
1988	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident
1991	Oxford University	England	Sabbatical
1992-2000	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident (resumption)

2000			Sick Leave
2000	Our Lady of Lourdes	Northridge, California	Parochial Vicar
2004			Administrative Leave

CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 *Città del Vaticano,*
Palazzo del S. Uffizio 12 November 2005

PROT. N. 782/2004 – 22104
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Eminence,

Thank you for your correspondence of 19 November 2004 regarding the **Rev. Sean CRONIN**, a priest of your Archdiocese accused of the sexual abuse of minors.

After having carefully examined the *Acta*, and in light of Your Eminence's comments, this Congregation grants the requested derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor. You are thus authorized to initiate a penal process as soon as possible.

Your Eminence is kindly requested to inform the accused of the allegations and proofs, while affording him the opportunity, via his canonical advocate, of a proper defence. On completion of the above-mentioned process at First Instance, the Tribunal is asked to forward the *Acta* to the Congregation.

With gratitude for your kindness and prayerful best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+William J. Levada

✠ William J. LEVADA
Archbishop Emeritus of San Francisco
Prefect

His Eminence
Roger Cardinal Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles
Office of the Archbishop
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2202
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VOTUM OF THE BISHOP OF INCARDINATION
Cardinal Roger Michael Mahony

Date

His Holiness,
Pope Benedict XV1

Your Holiness:

It is with deep sadness that I write to you with regard to the petition for a dispensation from the obligation of sacred orders, along with a dispensation fro the obligation of clerical celibacy of Sean Cronin.

Sean Cronin, born on October 26, 1943, incardinated in the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The archdiocesan seminary council determined that Deacon Cronin not be promoted to the order of priesthood due to fears over homosexual tendencies.

For a time Deacon Cronin exercised diaconal ministry in Africa. There he met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, who invited him to come to his archdiocese. On June 13, 1973, he was excardinated from the Archdiocese of Dublin and incardinated into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. On September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

In the years that followed, Father Cronin enjoyed various priestly assignments in our archdiocese[redacted]

REDACTED

REDACTED

In 2003, I was notified that a M[redacted]ad filed suit against the archdiocese charging that Father Cronin had performed upon him egregious sexual acts while still a minor. In the same year a Mr.[redacted]filed similar charges. I initiated an investigation according to the norm of law and determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela,* I provided a detailed report to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which authorized me to conduct a penal process to determine if indeed Father Cronin had committed the delict of

sexual abuse of a minor. Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Father Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin requested a delay in the trial pending the outcome of the law suits against the archdiocese by victims of clerical sexual abuse. Now, with the help of canonical counsel, he has decided to forego the right to a judicial trial and to voluntarily petition Your Holiness for a dispensation from all the rights and obligations of a presbyter.

These allegations against Sean Cronin give evidence of a troubled life, dating back to his seminary days and lasting throughout his years of priesthood. In a letter to my Promoter of Justice, the present Archbishop of Dublin, Duirmuid Martin, states that his predecessor, Archbishop McQuaid was adamant that Sean Cronin not be promoted to priesthood due to homosexual tendencies. Later, these homosexual tendencies appear in [redacted] report to archdiocesan authorities on behalf of his students and in the students own reports. Added is the report of the aggravating circumstance of alcohol abuse while engaged in the public exercise of priestly ministry. In order for him to continue in ministry, it was deemed necessary for Father Cronin to undergo special training in boundary issues and special treatment for alcohol/substance abuse.

Even more disturbing are the allegations of sexual abuse of minors necessitating my report to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The investigation of these allegations indicated, at the very least, a semblance of truth.

In retrospect, it seems clear that Sean Cronin was never a suitable candidate for the priesthood. It would be for the good of the church and for Father Cronin's own good if he were to be returned to the lay state. For this reason, I hereby offer my *Votum* in favor of granting this petition.

With kindest personal regards, I remain,

Date

His Eminence
William Cardinal Leveda, Prefect,
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith,
Piazza Del S. Ufficio,11.
00120 Vatican City.

REV. SEAN CRONIN
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

Your Eminence:

I write to you concerning developments in the above referenced case of Rev. Sean Cronin. Some of the information recorded here is contained already in my original report to the Congregation. However, for your convenience, and in the interests on completeness, there will be some duplication.

Sean Cronin, born October 26, 1943, incardinated in the diocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies". For a time he exercised the order of deacon in Africa. There he met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, who invited him for service in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In 1972, he served as a deacon at St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys). On June 13, 1973, he was incardinated into the Archdiocese, and on September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Genevieve Parish. In the years that followed he served in various assignments in the archdiocese as parochial vicar, high school teacher, and as chaplain at Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes. The year 1991 was spent on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Part of the year 2000 was spent on sick leave.

[redacted] In 2003, officials of the Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] had filed a lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, charging that from 1972 to 1977, while between the ages of twelve to eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him. In that same year the notice was received at Archdiocese of another law suit filed by [redacted] charging that, during the years 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of that time, [redacted] would have been a minor at civil but not canon law.

On November 7, 2003, I initiated a preliminary investigation in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004, I determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As

mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, I communicated the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. By letter, dated November 12, 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a panel process to determine the truth of the matter (Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Fr. Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin was notified of the pending action. In a hand written letter to my Vicar for Clergy, Msgr. Craig Cox, dated April 14, 2006, he requested a delay in the canonical trial pending the outcome of the law suits against the Archdiocese filed by victims of clerical sexual abuse. At the same time, he informed Msgr. Cox that he had given his mandate to [redacted] to represent him as his Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

In due time, Father Cronin was notified that it was opportune to begin the penal process. After consultation with canonical counsel, Father Cronin informed me of his decision to forego the right to a judicial trial and to voluntarily petition the Holy Father for a dispensation from all the obligations and rights as a presbyter. Meanwhile, an agreement has been reached that the archdiocese will provide for his immediate and transitional needs.

As part of my original report to the Congregation, I provided a description of the case drawn from documents on file at the Archdiocesan Curia at that time. Since then additional evidence has come to light which is helps in providing a fuller account.

There are three separated and unconnected denunciations of Father Cronin. The first is

REDACTED

REDACTED

[redacted]

The second denunciation is that of Mr [redacted] born October 20, 1960. In the Claimant Questionnaire introducing a suit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, declared and signed under penalty of perjury, June 29, 2004, [redacted] claims to have

been abused sexually by Fr. Cronin "From approximately 1972 through approximately 1979". The alleged abuse occurred "many times over 10 years", "three to five times a week for the first couple of years" and then "approximately once a month" thereafter while the complainant was an altar boy. The abuse consisted in "mutual ejaculation", oral copulation, wrestling, "touching my anus", "simulated intercourse (over and under the clothes)", and "I would go to bed with Fr. Cronin when we stayed at the rectory".

In an interview conducted by Canonical Auditor, REDACTED on June 30, 2004, Mr. REDACTED. stated that the contact and relationship between himself and Cronin spanned approximately the period of 1971-1977 when REDACTED was 11 to 17 years old. REDACTED claims that Cronin performed approximately 70 or more sexual acts on him including Cronin rubbing REDACTED with his (Cronin's) exposed genitals and ejaculating on REDACTED partially nude body. These acts are alleged to have occurred in REDACTED home and in Cronin's residences at St. Genevive's Parish, Panorama City, St. Monica Parish, Santa Monica, and, St. Michael Parish, Los Angeles. (cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp.25-36)

The third denunciation is that of Mr. REDACTED Born September 30th, 1962. In an interview conducted by canonical auditor, REDACTED, on April 16, 2004, Mr. REDACTED describes a lengthy period of interaction between himself and Fr. Cronin while he was a senior and Father Cronin was a teacher at St. Monica's High School, Santa Monica. The relationship began with counseling sessions and developed into grooming behaviors including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, being taken to a movie that included homosexual activity. According to REDACTED, Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually, Fr. Cronin kissed him on the mouth. In conversation REDACTED shared with Fr. Cronin that he has a birth mark on his penis REDACTED claims that Cronin asked if he could see his penis REDACTED did not comply with the request and asked that Fr. Cronin take him home immediately. The incident severed the relationship. Interviews conducted by REDACTED with other people provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and REDACTED did spent time together. (cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp. 14-25)

.Subsequently, On March 12, 2004 REDACTED emailed Fr. Cronin via REDACTED entitled "My Pain". The email reads in part: "Father Cronin, I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine". The purpose of the e-mail was to remind Fr. Cronin of the harm he did to REDACTED 24 years earlier, the adverse effect that it is having on himself and his family, and that Fr. Cronin owes it to him, his family and the church to tell the truth. REDACTED received psychological therapy arranged and paid for through the Victim's Assistance Office of the Archdiocese.

When Father Cronin was informed that REDACTED and REDACTED were prospective plaintiffs in law suits against the archdiocese, he denied any misconduct; this denial is reiterated in a letter from Fr. Cronin's civil attorney, REDACTED in December 2003. Fr. Cronin admits some of the behaviors w

The allegation of [redacted], if proven, would constitute the delict of Canon 2359.2 of the 1917 Code (Canon 1395.2. of the 1983 Code).

A background check on the accuser shows that he was convicted of a felony (violence), and has had other difficulties with the law. He has been married multiple times and admits to promiscuous relationships.

While the details of the allegation may be in question, and even its scope, in light of other evidence in the case, it would be difficult to argue that both the claimant questionnaire and the accuser's statement to the canonical investigator are a total fabrication.

The accuser's statements must be viewed within the context of other evidence. To that end, reference is made to a hand written letter dated March 3, 1977, by Father Cronin's Pastor, [redacted] to Cardinal Timothy Manning regarding Fr. Cronin's association with young boys. That letter reads in full:

Eminence:

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted] judged that there was doubt as to whether or not Fr. Cronin associated with boys in his room. He concluded that the doubt would be resolved on the basis of the behavior of Fr. Cronin in the future; "If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future".

It is in that context that the [redacted] allegation becomes important. Though not in itself a delict, it does pertain to the sexual abuse of a civil minor, there are marked similarities to th[redacted] allegation and it fulfills [redacted] requirement for resolving the doubt about Father Cronin's capacity to sin with minors

Parallel with indications of Fr. Cronin's sexual abuse minors, are facts and indications of his sexual involvement with young male adults. On file in our Curia is a letter from the present [redacted], dated, February 24, 2206, outlining the sequence of events leading to the decision not to promote Sean Cronin to the order of priesthood due to "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". Ultimately, Cronan was granted excardination with the proviso, "The responsibility for ordaining him will rest with the bishop who accepts him".

It is documented that Sean Cronin was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin but was not promoted to the order of priesthood because of "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". In the months succeeding his dismissal, approaches were made to the Archdiocese of Dublin by several diocesan bishops. The replies of Archbishop McQuaid were unambiguous; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese". Archbishop Dermot Ryan succeeded Archbishop McQuaid in 1972. Almost immediately he received a request to release Sean Cronin for incardination into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The matter was put to the seminary council and the following recommendation was sent to the Archbishop: "It is the recommendation of the Council that Sean Cronin be granted excardination from the diocese. The responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the bishop who accepts him".

The issue of homosexual tendencies resurfaces in [redacted]s complaint on behalf of three of his students. In addition to allegations of homosexual behavior [redacted] also reported that there were occasions on which various faculty members reported smelling alcohol on Fr. Cronin's breath. One of the students reported the same experience both in class and in Fr. Cronin's office. [redacted] requested Fr. Cronin's transfer to a different ministry in the Archdiocese. [redacted]

Based on the evidence of a troubled past, I conclude that Father Cronin is not suitable for ministry and will not be in the future. For that reason I wholeheartedly support his petition to the Holy Father for a return to the lay state.

Date

His Eminence
William Cardinal Leveda, Prefect
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith,
Piazza Del S. Ufficio, 11
00120 Vatican City.

Re: Rev. Sean Cronin
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Prot. No. 782/2004-22104

Your Eminence:
On November 9, 2004, in accordance with the norms set forth in *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela,* I submitted to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith the case of Rev. Sean Cronin, accused of sexual abuse of minors. By letter dated, 12 November 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the *delict* of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized me to initiate a penal judicial process.

Father Cronin elected to postpone the trial pending the outcome of civil suits against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles by victims of clerical sexual abuse, which included Father Cronin's accuser.

In due time, Father Cronin was notified that that it was opportune to begin the penal process and was provided with competent canonical counsel. After consultation with counsel, Father Cronin informed me of his decision to forego the right to the judicial process, and to voluntarily petition the Holy Father for a dispensation from all obligations and rights as a presbyter. Meanwhile, an agreement has been reached that the archdiocese will provide for his immediate and transitional needs.

As part of my original report to the Congregation, I provided a detailed description of the case drawn from documents on file at the Archdiocesan Curia at that time. Since then the discovery of additional evidence is helpful in clarifying aspects of the case. Following are the reasons why I support this petition.

Sean Cronin was born on October 26, 1943. He was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland. He was judged by the Seminary Council to be unfit, at that time, for ordination to the priesthood. A letter from the present Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin, to an official of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, dated, February 24, 2006, outlines the sequence if events leading to the Council's decision not to promote Sean Cronin to the priesthood "due to grave fear of homosexual tendencies". In the months suAlso included in the letter are the responses of his predecessor, Archbishop McQuaid, to requests from other bishops for recommendation for ordination to the priesthood: "not one hope of ever being received by a bishop"; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese".

REV. SEAN CRONIN
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

Species Facti:

Sean Cronin, born October 26, 1943, incardinated in the diocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies". For a time he exercised the order of deacon in Africa. He met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited by him to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. In 1972, he served as a deacon at St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys). On June 13, 1973, he was incardinated into the Archdiocese, and on September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Genevieve Parish. In the years that followed he served in various assignments in the archdiocese as parochial vicar, high school teacher, and as chaplain at Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes. The year 1991 was spent on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. He spent part of the year 2000 on sick leave.

[redacted] In 2003, officials of the Archdiocese were notified tha[redacted] had filed a lawsuit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, charging that from 1972 to 1977, while between the ages of twelve to eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him. In that same year the Archdiocese was notified of another law suit was filed against it by [redacted] charging that during the years 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of that time, [redacted]would have been a minor at civil but not canon law. From 2/10/00 to 9/30/00 Father Cronin underwent in-patient treatment for alcoholism at Guest House, Rochester, Minnesota.

On November 7, 2003, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004, the Cardinal Archbishop determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, the matter was communicated to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. By letter, dated November 12, 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a panel process to determine the truth of the matter (Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Fr. Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

Father Cronin was notified of the pending action. In a hand written letter to Msgr. Cox, Vicar for Clergy, dated April 14, 2006, he requested a delay in the canonical trial pending the outcome of the law suits against the Archdiocese by victims of clerical

sexual abuse. At the same time, he notified Msgr. Cox that he had given his mandate to [redacted] to represent him as Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

DENUNCIATION OF [redacted]

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED he

THE ALLEGATION OF [redacted]

In the Claimant Questionnaire, introducing a suit against the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, declared and signed under penalty of perjury, June 29, 2004, [redacted] **born October 20, 1960,** alleges that he was abused sexually by Fr. Cronin "From approximately 1972 through approximately 1979". The alleged abuse occurred "many times over 10 years", "three to five times a week for the first couple of years" and then "approximately once a month" thereafter while complainant was an altar boy. The abuse consisted in "mutual ejaculation", oral copulation, wrestling, "touching my anus", "simulated intercourse (over and under the clothes)", and "I would go to bed with Fr. Cronin when we stayed at the rectory".

The Canonical Interview with [redacted] conducted by [redacted], June 30, 2004, yielded the following: [redacted] contact and relationship with Cronin spanned approximately the period of 1971-1972, whe[redacted] was 11 or 12 years old, to 1977 and about 17 years of age. [redacted] claims that Cronin performed approximately 70 or more sexual acts on him including Cronin rubbing [redacted] with his (Cronin's) exposed genitals and ejaculating on [redacted] partially nude body. These acts are alleged to have occurred in [redacted] home and in Cronin's residences at St. Genevive's Parish, Panorama City, St. Monica Parish, Santa Monica, and, St. Michael, Los Angeles. **(cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp.25-36)**

THE ALLEGATION OF REDACTED

REDACTED Born September 30th, 1962, was interviewed on April 16, 2004, by canonical auditor, REDACTED Mr REDACTED describes a lengthy period of interaction between Fr. Cronin and himself while he was a senior and Father Cronin was a teacher at St. Monica's High School, Santa Monica. The relationship began with counseling sessions and developed into grooming behaviors including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations. being taken to a movie that included homosexual activity. According to Mr REDACTED Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Fr. Cronin kissed him on the mouth. In conversation Mr. REDACTED shared with Fr. Cronin that he has a birth mark on his penis. REDACTED claims that Cronin asked if he could see his penis. Mr. REDACTED did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. The incident severed the relationship. Interviews with other people conducted by Mr. REDACTED provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and Mr. REDACTED did spent time together. **(cf. "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp. 14-25)**

.On March 12, 2004, Mr. REDACTED sent an email to Fr. Cronin via REDACTED The subject matter of the email is "My pain". It reads in part: "Father Cronin, I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine". The purpose of the e-mail was to remind Fr. Cronin of the harm he did to REDACTED 24 years earlier, the adverse effect that it is having on himself and his family, and that Fr. Cronin owes it to him, his family and the church to tell the truth.

Records show that REDACTED received psychological therapy arranged and paid for through the Victim's Assistance Office of the Archdiocese.

When Father Cronin was informed that REDACTED and REDACTED were prospective plaintiffs in law suits against the archdiocese, he denied any misconduct; this denial is reiterated in a letter from Fr. Cronin's civil attorney, REDACTED n December 2003.

CONCLUSIONS BASED ON AVAILABLE EVIDENCE

The allegation of REDACTED, if proven, would constitute the delict of Canon 2359.2 of the 1917 Code (Canon 1395.2. of the 1983 Code).

A background check on the accuser shows that he was convicted of a felony (violence), and has had other difficulties with the law. He has been married multiple times and admits to promiscuous relationships.

While the details of the allegation may be in question, and even its scope, in light of other evidence in the case, it would be difficult to argue that both the claimant questionnaire and the accuser's statement to the canonical investigator are a total fabrication.

The accuser's statements must be viewed within the context of other evidence.
To that end, reference is made to a hand written letter dated March 3, 1977, by Father Cronin's Pastor, [redacted] to Cardinal Timothy Manning regarding Fr. Cronin's association with young boys. That letter reads in full:

Eminence:

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

[redacted] judged that there was doubt as to whether or not Fr. Cronin associated with boys in his room. He concluded that the doubt would be resolved on the basis of the behavior of Fr. Cronin in the future; "If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future".

It is in that context that the [redacted] allegation becomes important. Though not in itself a delict, it does pertain to the sexual abuse of a civil minor, there are marked similarities to the [redacted] allegation and it fulfills [redacted]s requirement for resolving the doubt about Father Cronin's capacity to sin with minors

Parallel with indications of Fr. Cronin's sexual abuse minors, are facts and indications of his sexual involvement with young male adults. On file in our Curia is a letter from the present Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin, dated, February 24, 2206, outlining the sequence of events leading to the decision not to promote Sean Cronin to the order of priesthood due to "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". Ultimately, Cronan was granted excardination with the proviso, "The responsibility for ordaining him will rest with the bishop who accepts him".

It is documented that Sean Cronin was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin but was not promoted to the order of priesthood because of "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". In the months succeeding his dismissal, approaches were made to the Archdiocese of Dublin by several diocesan bishops. The replies of Archbishop McQuaid were unambiguous; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese". Archbishop Dermot Ryan succeeded Archbishop McQuaid in 1972. Almost immediately he received a request to release Sean Cronin for incardination into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The matter was put to the seminary council and the following recommendation was sent

to the Archbishop: "It is the recommendation of the Council that Sean Cronin be granted excardination from the diocese. The responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the bishop who accepts him".

The issue of homosexual tendencies resurfaces in [redacted]'s complaint on behalf of three of his students. In addition to allegations of homosexual behavior [redacted] also reported that there were occasions on which various faculty members reported smelling alcohol on Fr. Cronin's breath. One of the students reported the same experience both in class and in Fr. Cronin's office. [redacted] requested Fr. Cronin's transfer to a different ministry in the Archdioces[redacted]

Based on the evidence of a troubled past, I conclude that Father Cronin is not suitable for ministry and will not be in the future. For that reason I wholeheartedly support his petition to the Holy Father for a return to the lay state.

REV. SEAN CRONIN
CDF Prot. N. 782/2004-22104

Species Facti:

Sean Cronin, born October 26, 1943, incardinated in the diocese of Dublin, Ireland, was ordained to the diaconate on October 7, 1967. The seminary council decided to dismiss him from the seminary because "of grave fear of homosexual tendencies". For a time he exercised the order of deacon in Africa. He met the then Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited by him to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He began serving as a deacon at St. Genevieve Parish, Panorama City (Van Nuys) in 1972. On June 13, 1973, he was incardinated into the Archdiocese, and on September 8, 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood.

His first assignment was as parochial vicar at St. Genevieve Parish. In the years that followed he served in various assignments in the archdiocese as parochial vicar, high school teacher, and as chaplain at Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes. In 1991 he spent time on sabbatical at Oxford University, England. He spent part of the year 2000 on sick leave.

In 2003, officials of the Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was between the ages of twelve to eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him. In that same year the Archdiocese was notified that a law suit was filed against the Archdiocese by [redacted] charging that from 1979 to 1982, Fr. Cronin engaged him in sexual activity. During part of that time, he would have been a minor at civil but not canon law.

On November 7, 2003, A preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with the norm of Canon 1717. In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, the Cardinal Archbishop determined that the reports bore a semblance of truth. As mandated by *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela*, Norm 13, the matter was communicated to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. After having carefully examined the *Acta* ,and in light of Cardinal Mahony's comments, on November 12, 2005, the Congregation granted derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor, and authorized a panel process (Congregatio Pro Doctrina Fidei, Prot.N. 782/2004-22104). Meanwhile, on July 13, 2004, Fr. Cronin was placed on administrative leave.

In a hand written letter to Msgr. Cox, Vicar for Clergy, dated April 14, 2006, Fr. Cronin requested that the canonical trial be delayed pending the outcome of the law suits against the Archdiocese. In that same letter he said that he had given his mandate to [redacted] to represent him as Procurator and Advocate in the canonical proceedings.

THE ALLEGATION OF [redacted]

Claimant Questionnaire: declared and signed under penalty of perjury, June 29, 2004.

[redacted] alleges that he was abused sexually by Fr. Cronin "From approximately 1972 through approximately 1979". Plaintiff was born October 20, 1960. Alleges sexual abuse by Fr. Cronin "many times over 10 years", "three to five times a week for the first couple of years" and then "approximately once a month" thereafter while an altar boy. Abuse consisted in "mutual ejaculation", oral copulation, wrestling ; kissing on the cheek and body under and over the clothing, "touching my anus", "simulated intercourse (over and under the clothes)", and "I would go to bed with Fr. Cronin when we stayed at the rectory".

Interview of [redacted] conducted by Canonical Investigator, [redacted] June 30, 2004:

Synopsis [redacted] contact and relationship with Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971, 1972 when [redacted] was 11 or 12 years old to 1977 and about 17 years of age. [redacted] claims that Cronin performed approximately 70 or more sexual acts on him including Cronin rubbing [redacted] with his (Cronin's) exposed genitals and ejaculating on [redacted] partially nude body and attempting one act of oral copulation on Yguado. [redacted] states that these acts took place in his home and in Cronin's residences while Cronin was assigned to St. Genevive's Parish, Panorama City, St. Monica Parish, Santa Monica, St. Michael, Los Angeles. **(The allegation of [redacted] the background investigation to identify [redacted], the Interview of [redacted], and additional investigative efforts regarding [redacted] allegations may be found in "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp.25-36)**

EVIDENCE:

1. Letter of the present Archbishop of Dublin, Diarmuid Martin, dated, February 24, 2006, outlining the sequence of events leading to a decision not to promote Sean Cronin's to the order of priesthood for the Archdiocese of Dublin due to "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". Also included are the responses of his predecessor, Archbishop McQuaid, to requests from other bishops for a recommendation for ordination to the priesthood: "not one hope of ever being received by a bishop"; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any dioceses".

2. Letter from [redacted], pastor of St. Andrew's Parish, Pasadena, to Cardinal Timothy Manning referencing two discussions between the Cardinal and

himself about Fr. Cronin's "**association with boys in his room**". The file shows that Cardinal Manning instructed his secretary, [redacted] arrange a meeting between the Cardinal and Fr. Cronin. All who would know the details of the meeting are now deceased. [redacted] noted that had disciplinary action been taken, a note of same would be in the file. Msgr. Rawden, Chancellor at the time, and Bishop Ward, V.G. at the time state that Cardinal Manning did not discuss with them his dealings in priest disciplinary matters. Msgr. Rawden noted the close relationship of [redacted] and Cardinal Manning and the probability that they kept the outcome of the meeting between themselves. Priests who lived in the rectory at St. Andrew's at the same time as Cronin were interviewed. None ever observed boys entering Cronin's room.

3. [redacted] Born September 30th. 1962. On April 16, 2004, [redacted] canonical auditor, interviewed Mr. [redacted] He describes a lengthy period of interaction with Fr. Cronin when he was a senior at St. Monica's High School, and Fr. Cronin was a teacher there. The interaction began in counseling sessions and included grooming behaviors; being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, taking him to a movie that included homosexual activity. According to Mr [redacted] Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Fr. Cronin kissed him on the mouth, though without using his tongue. In conversation Mr [redacted] told Fr. Cronin that he had a birth mark on his penis. Mr [redacted] claims that Fr. Cronin asked if he could see his penis. Mr. [redacted] did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. That incident severed the relationship. Mr. [redacted] followed up on leads based on the statements of Mr. [redacted] These interviews provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and Mr. [redacted] spent time together. **(The allegations of [redacted] against Fr. Cronin, background investigation and interview of Mr. [redacted] and additional investigative efforts regarding [redacted] allegations can be found in "The Investigative Report of Sexual Abuse Allegations against Father Sean Cronin", pp. 14-25)**

Records show that Mr [redacted] communicated with [redacted] director of Victims Assistance, and that the Archdiocese paid for psychological therapy for Mr [redacted]

On March 12, 2004, Mr. [redacted] sent an email addressed to Fr. Cronin to Msgr.Cox. with the request that Msgr. Cox forward the email to Fr. Cronin. The subject of the email is "My pain". It begins: "Father Cronin, I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine". In essence, it is to remind Fr. Cronin of the harm he did to him 24 years earlier, the averse effect that is having on himself and his family, and that Fr. Cronin owes it to him, his family, the church to tell the truth.

4. [redacted]

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

5. The report of CMOB (June 29, 2004)to Cardinal Mahony makes reference to the fact that when Fr. Cronin was informed that [redacted] and [redacted] were prospective plaintiffs in law suits against the archdiocese, he denied any misconduct, and that this denial was reiterated in a letter from [redacted] Fr. Cronin's civil attorney, in December 2003.

6. Memorandum of Richard Loomis to Cardinal Mahony, Nov 17, 1999, references an upcoming meeting of Fr. Cronin with Cardinal Mahony set for Nov.22.

7. Memorandum, Richie to Cardinal, Feb.10, 2000, references a meeting about arrangements for treatment.

8. I find no record of a meeting at which Fr. Cronin was presented with accusations relating t[redacted]or [redacted]

CONCLUSIONS BASED ON EVIDENCE ON HAND

1. **The allegation of [redacted] constitutes the delict of Canon 2359.2 of the 1917 Code (Canon 1395.2. of the 1983 Code).**

The issue of proof will probably run this way. The background check on the accuser shows that he was convicted of a felony (violence), and has had other difficulties with the law. He has been married multiple times, admits to promiscuous relationships. There are some inconsistencies in his claimant questionnaire. The defense will argue that his statements are not to be believed, and that the case should be thrown out all together. Furthermore, persons

interviewed in connection with the allegation were unable to substantiate [redacted] allegation.

E contra, while the details of the allegation may be in question, and even its scope, in light of other evidence in the case, it would be difficult to argue that both the claimant questionnaire and the accusers statement to the canonical investigator are a total fabrication. That being said, if any part of the allegation is true, that would form a basis for the delict.

The statements of the accuser must be viewed within the context of other evidence in the case. To that end, reference is made to a hand written letter dated March 3, 1977, by [redacted] to Cardinal Timothy Manning. That letter reads in full:

Eminence:

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely, [redacted]

This document is not open to suspicion or contradiction. It is well known that Cardinal Manning and [redacted] were very close personal friends. Even so, [redacted] respect for the cardinal and the office of archbishop, explains the formal salutation, "Eminence". Their personal friendship is evidenced by the fact that Cardinal Manning spent much of his free time at St. Andrew's rectory. This explains the statement, "When we talked Sunday about Sean".

Clearly, someone approached [redacted], pastor of the parish to which Fr. Cronin was assigned, complaining of Fr. Cronin's "association with boys in his room". Cardinal Manning had a reputation for being solicitous for the wellbeing of his priests. It can be reasonably concluded that he was especially concerned for the wellbeing of Fr. Cronin as he was instrumental in bringing Fr. Cronin to the archdiocese and ordaining him to the priesthood. This will explain why Msgr. [redacted] in his letter makes reference to the fact that the cardinal "asked me twice about the question". In spite of [redacted] suggestion "not to mention it", Cardinal Manning arranged an appointment to meet personally with Fr. Cronin. The absence of any record of what transpired at the meeting between Cardinal Manning and Fr. Cronin is understandable in light of Cardinal Manning's *modus operandi* in dealing with priest problems, namely, his preference to deal personally and confidentially with priests in trouble.

[redacted] judged that there was doubt as to whether or not Fr. Cronin associated with boys in his room. He concluded that the doubt would be resolved on the basis of the behavior of Fr. Cronin in the future; "If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future".

It is in that context that the allegation of [redacted] becomes very important. In his statement to the canonical auditor, he describes a lengthy period of interaction (1979-1982) between himself and Fr. Cronin which included grooming behaviors; being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, taking him to a movie that included sexual activity, kissing him on the mouth, and requesting to view Mr [redacted] penis. Though Mr. [redacted] was not a minor at canon law at the time, he was a minor at civil law. Apart from his statement to the canonical auditor, Mr [redacted] made similar claims in a Claimant Questionnaire. He was in contact with Msgr. Cox, vicar for clergy, and with [redacted] Director of Victims Assistance. The Archdiocese paid for him to receive several sessions with a psychologist. Interviews with witnesses provide corroboration that Fr. Cronin and Mr. [redacted] spent time together. Mr. [redacted]s consistent and nobody has questioned his credibility.

[redacted] claims that the relationship spanned approximately the years 1971-77 [redacted] credibility is questionable. There is no direct substantiation. However, within the same time span, there are two other happenings, unrelated to each other, and to [redacted] allegation, which invite consideration that the [redacted] allegation might not be a total fabrication. In other words, while the details and scope of the [redacted] allegation may very well be in question, there is the possibility, if not the probability that something of a sexual nature did occur between Sean Cronin and [redacted]

Whatever the precise nature of the complaint which [redacted] received about Fr. Cronin having boys to his room, it is clear from Msgr's letter that the matter was thoroughly discussed with Cardinal Manning on a Sunday in late February or early March 1977. It is also certain that the Cardinal was gravely concerned that the allegation might be true. He brought the matter up for discussion twice on that one Sunday. Then, contrary to [redacted] suggestion that, because of its doubtful nature, the matter not be mentioned to Fr. Cronin, the Cardinal chose to meet personally with Fr. Cronin about it. Why would the Cardinal do these things if he was convinced that Fr. Cronin was incapable of misconduct with minors.

The [redacted] allegation 1979-1982, though not a delict, but for which there is ample support, confirms the cardinal's suspicion and fulfills [redacted]irement for taking away the doubt about Fr. Cronin's capacity to sin with minors.

As has been pointed out, these three matters are unrelated save for the involvement of Fr. Cronin in all three. They happen consecutively, which indicates a pattern of behavior.

Parallel with indications of Fr. Cronin's sexual abuse minors, are facts and indications of his sexual involvement with male adults.

It is documented that Sean Cronin was ordained a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin but was not promoted to the order of priesthood because of "grave fear of homosexual tendencies". In the months succeeding his dismissal, approaches were made to the Archdiocese of Dublin by several diocesan bishops. The replies of Archbishop McQuaid were unambiguous; "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood"; "I cannot give a *nihil obstat* for his entry into any diocese". Archbishop Dermot Ryan succeeded Archbishop McQuaid in 1972. Almost immediately he received a request to release Sean Cronin for incardination into the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The matter was put to the seminary council and the following recommendation was sent to the Archbishop: "It is the recommendation of the Council that Sean Cronin be granted excardination from the diocese. The responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the bishop who accepts him".

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

The stated reason for Sean Cronin's expulsion from the seminary in Dublin and the report of [redacted] and the ensuing investigation lead to the probable conclusion that Sean Cronin is homosexual. If that is so, his advocate will point to studies that suggest that a person who is homosexual will not be interested in young boys and *vica versa*. Therefore, the accusation [redacted] is without merit.

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2202

November 9, 2004

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo, J.C.D.
Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20008

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Excellency:

Enclosed, please find a letter from Cardinal Roger M. Mahony to Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger at the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith, regarding Reverend Sean Cronin.

Father Cronin allegedly committed the delict of canon 1395, §2 with a minor. Cardinal Mahony is seeking the assistance of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in this matter.

Would you please be so kind as to forward this to the Congregation on our behalf?

Also enclosed is a check made out to the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith to cover the usual *taxa* in such matters.

Thank you very much for your kind attention to this matter. May God continue to bless you!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

enclosures

176004

Check Date: 09.Nov.2004 ACCLA Check No.

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506 VC	05.Nov.2004	00118403	500.00	0.00	500.00

Vendor Number	Name		Total Discounts	
0000002838	Congregation For The Doctrine		$0.00	
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To The Order Of

REDACTED

CONGREGATION FOR THE DOCTRINE
of the Faith
Piazza Del S Offizio II
00120 Vatican City

Authorized Signature

Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Office of the Archbishop (213) 637-7288
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2202

November 9, 2004

His Eminence
Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11
00120 Vatican City
EUROPE

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. Father Cronin has been accused of *graviora delicta.*

Enclosed, please find the pages summarizing the nature of this case, as well as copies of materials assembled from Father Cronin's file and during our investigation.

Sean Cronin was born on October 26, 1943. He was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland. He was judged by the Seminary Council to be unfit, at that time, for ordination as a presbyter, and subsequently he served for a time as a missionary in Africa. He met the former Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He began serving as a deacon in this Archdiocese in 1982, was incardinated, and then ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyter in 1973. He has served in a number of assignments until July 2004 when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, masturbation and oral copulation. A preliminary investigation was initiated on November 7, 2003.

On June 30, 2004, [redacted] was interviewed by a canonical auditor. During the interview, [redacted] stated that his contact and relationship with Father Cronin spanned the approximate period of 1971 or 1972 (when [redacted] was eleven or twelve years old) to 1977 and about seventeen years old. He claimed that Father Cronin performed approximately seventy or more sexual acts on him including rubbing [redacted] with his exposed genitals and ejaculating on [redacted]'s partially nude body.

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REDACTED

REDACTED

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In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law, and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth. He was thus placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* (no.13), I hereby refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. I am attaching the report of the canonical auditor summarizing the findings of the investigation.

Also, it is important to add that Father Cronin has had problems with alcohol abuse to the degree that an intervention and residential treatment was required. The impact of this fact on the substance of this case, if any, has not been established.

Father Cronin has not yet been heard by a canonical auditor. He indicated that he wished to seek canonical advice before determining whether to consent to an interview. To the best of my knowledge, he has not yet selected a canonical advisor. Through his civil attorney, however, Father Cronin asserts that he is innocent of all allegations.

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My greatest concern is that justice be done to Mr. [redacted] if he genuinely was victimized, as well as to Father Cronin, if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and authorization to initiate a formal penal trial, with a view to imposing the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state on Father Cronin if he is found to be guilty of the delict. In my assessment, only by means of a trial can the evidence can be fully assessed, additional evidence sought as necessary, and a determination be made with moral certitude that will be credible to the people of this Archdiocese.

Should the Congregation not concur with this request for a trial, I would very much appreciate direction as to how to proceed.

Thank you for your attention to this difficult matter. Please be assured of my prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Roger Cardinal Mahony

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

attachments

DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
NAME OF ORDINARY	Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
CDF PROT. N. (*if available*)	
NAME OF CLERIC	Reverend Sean Cronin

PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE CLERIC	**Date of Birth**	26 October 1943	**Age**	61
	Ordination	Deacon: 7 Oct 1967 Priest: 8 Sept 1973	**Years of ministry**	31

ORIGINAL DIOCESE OF INCARDINATION	Dublin, Ireland
MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE	Los Angeles in California
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE CLERIC	[redacted]
PROCURATOR (*include original signed mandate*)	
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR	

ASSIGNMENTS

Year	Parish	Location	Appointment
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1973			Incardinated in Archdiocese of Los Angeles on 13 June 1973
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1977	St. Monica High School	Santa Monica, California	Faculty
1977	St. Monica Parish	Santa Monica, California	Parochial Vicar
1979	St. Michael High School	Los Angeles, California	Faculty
1979	St. Michael Parish	Los Angeles, California	Resident
1982	St. Helen	South Gate, California	Resident
1984 - 2000	Marymount College	Rancho Palos Verdes, CA	Chaplain
1984	Sts. Peter and Paul	Wilmington, California	Resident
1988	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident
1991	Oxford University	England	Sabbatical
1992 - 2000	St. Margaret Mary Alacoque	Lomita, California	Resident (resumption)

2000			Sick Leave
2000	Our Lady of Lourdes	Northridge, California	Parochial Vicar
2004			Administrative Leave

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Year	Type/Case	Conviction	Sentence (*include copies of civil documents*)
2003	Civil lawsuit for damages REDACTED	pending	
2003	Civil lawsuit for damages REDACTED	pending	

MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE DIOCESE

Year	
2004	Administrative leave

SUSTENANCE PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE TO THE CLERIC

Full salary, automobile and medical benefits continue to be provided to Fr. Cronin. Loans made to assist the priest in securing legal counsel for his criminal defense.

RESPONSE/RECOURSE MADE BY THE CLERIC	
Year	

BISHOP'S *VOTUM*
There have been accusations and suspicions about Father Cronin's conduct with minors and young adults that have emerged throughout his priesthood. Early in his priestly service, in the 1970's, his pastor consulted with Cardinal Manning with regard to his conduct around boys. Complaints of sexual harassment also emerged from young adults during Father Cronin's service as chaplain at Marymount College. In 2003, two lawsuits were filed alleging sexual abuse of minors. One of those suits involves a young man who was age seventeen at the time the alleged abuse began in 1979. Thus, he was not a minor at canon law, though he was a minor at civil law. The other complaint involves abuse allegedly beginning when the youth was age eleven, and thus a minor at both canon law and civil law. We seek authorization to conduct an ecclesiastical penalty trial to assess the charges against Father Cronin and, if he is found guilty of abusive conduct with the minor, to impose the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state on Father Cronin.

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FROM: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE (213) 637-7284

Rev. Msgr. Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy
Archdiocesan Catholic Center
3424 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2241

TO: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE (202) 333-7121

Most Rev. Gabriel Montalvo, JCD
Apostolic Nuncio
Apostolic Nunciature
3339 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3687

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Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
the Archbishop
(213) 637-7288

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

November 9, 2004

His Eminence
Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger
Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
Piazza del S. Uffizio, 11
00120 Vatican City
EUROPE

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Eminence:

I write in regard to the matter of the Reverend Sean Cronin, a priest incardinated in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in California. He is presently domiciled within our Archdiocese. Father Cronin has been accused of *graviora delicta.*

Enclosed, please find the pages summarizing the nature of this case, as well as copies of materials assembled from Father Cronin's file and during our investigation.

Sean Cronin was born on October 26, 1943. He was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin, Ireland. He was judged by the Seminary Council to be unfit, at that time, for ordination as a presbyter, and subsequently he served for a time as a missionary in Africa. He met the former Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He began serving as a deacon in this Archdiocese in 1982, was incardinated, and then ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyter in 1973. He has served in a number of assignments until July 2004 when he was placed on administrative leave.

In 2003, officials of our Archdiocese were notified that [redacted] filed a lawsuit charging that from 1972 to 1977, when he was age twelve to seventeen or eighteen, Father Cronin performed sexual acts on him including simulated intercourse, masturbation and oral copulation. A preliminary investigation was initiated on November 7, 2003.

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This allegation of abusive activity on the part of Father Cronin did not emerge in a vacuum. At various points in his priesthood, information had come to officials of the Archdiocese indicating inappropriate and imprudent contacts between Father Cronin and others. As early as 1977, the pastor of the parish where Father Cronin was serving as parochial vicar discussed concerns about Father Cronin's contact with boys with the then Archbishop, Cardinal Manning. Unfortunately, information about this is sketchy, but the fact of the concern is verified in a letter from the pastor, [redacted]. The letter references two discussions between Cardinal Manning and [redacted]oth of whom are now deceased, about Father Cronin's, "association with boys in his room."

REDACTED REDACTED

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In July 2004, having reviewed the information gathered in the investigation, having consulted with experts in the law, and having received the recommendation of the review board established for these matters, it was decided that the allegation raised against Father Cronin bore a semblance of truth. He was thus placed on administrative leave. As mandated by the norm of *Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela* (no.13), I hereby refer the matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. I am attaching the report of the canonical auditor summarizing the findings of the investigation.

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My greatest concern is that justice be done to [redacted] if he genuinely was victimized, as well as to Father Cronin, if indeed he is innocent. For that reason I respectfully request a dispensation from prescription with respect to this action and authorization to initiate a formal penal trial, with a view to imposing the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state on Father Cronin if he is found to be guilty of the delict. In my assessment, only by means of a trial can the evidence can be fully assessed, additional evidence sought as necessary, and a determination be made with moral certitude that will be credible to the people of this Archdiocese.

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Thank you for your attention to this difficult matter. Please be assured of my prayers.

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+ Roger Cardinal Mahony

Cardinal Roger M. Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles

attachments

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CDF PROT. N. (*if available*)	
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MINISTRY IN/TRANSFER TO OTHER DIOCESE		Los Angeles in California		
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PROCURATOR (*include original signed mandate*)				
CONTACT ADDRESS OF THE PROCURATOR				

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RESPONSE/RECOURSE MADE BY THE CLERIC	
Year	

BISHOP'S *VOTUM*

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FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

July 13, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Let me begin by assuring you of my prayers in this difficult time. If I can be of service to you, please let me know.

This letter is to confirm in writing the essential content of our meeting today. I indicated to you that, since the filing of the two lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of minors on your part, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with canon 1717. I explained that, in the course of this investigation, a canonical auditor has been able to interview the two plaintiffs and has conducted further investigations. I also explained that the canonical auditor very much wishes to have an opportunity to interview you about these allegations. You are welcome to have a canonical advisor present at that interview. We hope to be able to schedule a day and time for that interview as soon as reasonably possible.

Second, I indicated that the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board has several times examined the allegations brought against you. Initially, the Board recommended you be maintained in ministry as the investigation commenced. In its most recent review, the Board recommended that the investigation had progressed to a point where it was now appropriate to place you on administrative leave. Cardinal Mahony has approved the Board's recommendation. The leave became effective on this date at the time I personally notified you.

Please note that being placed on administrative leave does not involve any final judgment on our part that the allegations are true or false. It does reflect the fact that, as a result of the progress of the preliminary investigation, a formal canonical process is warranted. After you have the opportunity to be interviewed, the Cardinal will remand this matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith as required by the Apostolic Letter *Sacrmentorum sanctitatis tutela*. Administrative leave is a step taken to protect both you and others as the canonical process unfolds and leads to a final determination.

During this time of leave, I direct that you engage in no public ministry without my specific authorization or that of the Cardinal. I hereby issue the warning of canon 1347 to inform you that any violation of this prohibition would render you liable to canonical penalties.

During your administrative leave, you are to leave your residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish as soon as reasonably possible and take up residence in a place we mutually agree upon. During your leave, your salary and benefits will be paid by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese will also reimburse you for the reasonable expenses of a canonical advocate.

During this traumatic time, let me renew my invitation to make use of one of our counselors to assist you in dealing with the stresses and tensions that being on a leave necessarily entails.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers. May the Lord guide and strengthen you with the blessings you need!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 14 July 2004

Last night I spoke with Father Cronin and placed him on administrative leave.

He mentioned that he had agreed to do a funeral on Friday morning for a family that specifically asked for him. The Pastor is on vacation and the Associate just arrived in the parish. For Father Cronin not to do this funeral would cause distress and raise questions. He asked about authorization to do that funeral.

I indicated that I understood the situation, and that I did not want rumors circulating in the parish before we make our weekend announcements. I told him I would consult.

I phoned by Cardinal Mahony and [redacted] Both agreed with me that it was appropriate to authorize Father Cronin to handle the funeral liturgies. I informed Father Cronin of this by phone this morning.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cardinal Roger M. Mahony

FROM: [redacted]
Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board [redacted]

RE: ***Recommendation of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board***
Reverend Sean Cronin (CMOB 067-01)

DATE: 29 June 2004

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board discussed the case of Father Sean Cronin on June 23, 2004.

REDACTED

[redacted]

In late 2002 and early 2003, Father Cronin's name emerged on a list of alleged abusers provided by the plaintiffs' attorneys. Two individuals were listed as plaintiffs. The brief summaries on the list indicated that one of the young men ([redacted] was alleging serious abuse over a period of many years ([redacted] beginning with the assignment of Father Cronin to St. Genevieve. The other complainant ([redacted]) alleged less egregious but still abusive activities from 1979-1982, beginning at St. Monica's. When informed that these two individuals were prospective plaintiffs, Father Cronin denied any misconduct. That denial was reiterated in a letter from [redacted] Father Cronin's attorney, in December of 2003.

In December of 2003, lawsuits were filed by the two men. The information in the lawsuits was sketchy in nature. In December 2003 and January 2004, one of our canonical auditors conducted some investigations. Announcements were made at Father Cronin's parish on the weekend of January 31 – February 1, 2004, informing the people that he had been accused by two individuals.

On April 16, 2004, [redacted] canonical auditor, interviewed M[redacted] He described a lengthy period of contact with Father Cronin that began in counseling, and involved grooming behaviors, including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, and taking him to a movie that involved scenes of homosexual activity. According to Mr. [redacted], Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Father Cronin kissed him on the mouth, though without using his tongue. Mr. [redacted]

claims that finally, on one occasion, Fr. Cronin asked to see his penis. Apparently in an earlier conversation Mr.[redacted] had told Fr. Cronin he had a birthmark there. Mr[redacted] did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. This severed the relationship.

[redacted] followed up leads based on the statement of M[redacted] but the only sort of corroborating information he could obtain were verifications that Fr. Cronin and [redacted] had spent a lot of time together.

Despite repeated efforts, we have not obtained the written questionnaire from the other plaintiff, [redacted] or his written statement as part of the mediation process.

The members of the Board discussed Fr. Cronin's case at length. Other means to try to corroborate the claims of Mr[redacted] were considered but offer little prospect of success. If the claims of Mr.[redacted] re accurate, most of what he described consists of unprofessional behavior on the part of Fr. Cronin and a pattern of regular and serious crossing of boundaries. A few things, such as the request that the young man exhibit his genitals and the unsolicited kiss on the lips, even though not "French kissing," cross over the line into abuse. Also, while providing alcohol to a minor is not sexual misconduct per se, it is a violation of the law and is the kind of activity that accompanies "grooming."

The Board has been advised that at this point the evidence is most likely insufficient to convict Fr. Cronin if this case were to be brought to a canonical trial. However, it appears to the members that M[redacted] allegations are credible. The claims he makes are "restrained." If he was simply inventing charges he could have claimed far more egregious activity. His allegations together with Fr. Cronin's subsequent boundary violations at Marymount and his difficulties with alcohol were all considered and contribute to the following recommendations:

1. That Father Cronin be invited to meet with the canonical auditor and Vicar for Clergy to be confronted and questioned and given the opportunity to respond.

2. That unless Fr. Cronin's statement produces information which, in my and [redacted] judgment, require further immediate investigation and/or consideration by the Board, that he be placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues. In accord with policy, an announcement would be made at Fr. Cronin's parish.

3. That a report on the interview with Fr. Cronin be made at the next CMOB meeting.

4. That further efforts be made to interview [redacted]

I concur in the recommendation –
+ Roger Card. Mahony
29 June 2004

cc: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL

To: REDACTED

From: REDACTED

Date: Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Re: Father Sean Cronin

Father Cronin is coming to see you. I believe your appointment is November 22.

REDACTED

REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

GuestHouse®

ROCHESTER TREATMENT CENTER
4800 – 48th Street, N.E.
P.O. Box 954
Rochester, MN 55903

March 8, 2002

His Eminence Roger Cardinal Mahoney
3424 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90010

Confidential
Re: Reverend Sean Cronin

Your Eminence:

We are pleased to report that Father Sean Cronin has satisfactorily completed the third and final phase of his recovery program at Guest House, February 25 to 28, 2002. During his formal treatment and Continuing Care, we have witnessed the emergence of a dedicated priest who is committed to the goal of long-term quality sobriety.

The primary focus of Father Cronin's Continuing Care week was on reviewing and revising his Continuing Care Plan. He had individual and group sessions with the therapy staff, attended a minimum of one AA meeting, and participated in group with Guest House primary clients. This afforded Father the ability to talk about the challenges and rewards of his recovery. He also participated in a group on spirituality.

Father Cronin reports abstinence since discharge and attendance at AA meetings on a weekly basis. He does have a sponsor who he sees on a regular basis. He is also attending priests' meetings within the Archdiocese.

Physically, Father is in overall good physical health and is following up with his physician on a regular basis. He appears to be very grateful for sobriety, and he is utilizing the tools of recovery. Overall, I am very pleased with the progress Father Cronin has made.

I have enclosed a copy of his Continuing Care Plan for your review, as you can see it is very comprehensive. While this concludes our formal interaction with Father Cronin, we hope he will stay in touch with us as a part of his ongoing recovery. By copy of this letter, we remind Father of his commitment to sobriety and recovery.

Your Eminence, thank you for your ongoing support of Father Cronin and the Guest House mission. If you have any questions regarding this correspondence or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully yours,

[redacted]

JMR/dlp

Enclosure
cc: [redacted]
Reverend Sean Cronin
File

RECEIVED
MAR 2 1 2002
BY:

200. Rec'd 5/28

REDACTED

From: REDACTED

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 11:02 PM

To: REDACTED

Subject: Misconduct

Computer e mail down - 5/24 - 5/27 holiday

Dear REDACTED

I have often pondered if I should have reported what I felt was misconduct by a priest before now. I only did not do so for the protection of the priest and the church. I often felt that maybe I was somehow responsible for his behavior towards me. I befriended the priest in question when I was a senior in high school. I was going through a difficult time coming to terms with the divorce of my parents and the early symptoms of substance abuse. The priest in question began helping me and meeting with me on a regular basis to talk about my problems and God. He would pick me up at my parents house on a weekly basis and we would go to dinner, where we drank alcohol, and then return to his residence to talk. Again, he always served me and himself alcohol. Our sessions often turned to discussions about sex. I remember him being very interested in the subject. At the end of our meeting we would hug. He then started kissing me on the lips. I was startled. He told me that in european cultures this was acceptable between men. He was Irish. He once took me to A Dutch film that dealt with a young man who was confronting his homosexuality. He felt that it was a film I should see. It did have sexual content with gay sex. The final incident for me was when I had told him that I had a birthmark on my penis. One night he asked if he could see it. I became angry and told him I never wanted to see him again. I was crushed. I felt that I had caused this. He betrayed my trust. I honestly feel that this would have and could have developed into a more serious situation had I had not put an end to it. It's important to note that this all began when I was 17 and ended when I was 18. What do you think.???

REDACTED

Responded: I am sorry ... REDACTED

Gave

- give alleged perpetrator
- place of incidents
- your name

email address

It will be handled with respect

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of the
Vicar for Canonical Services
Phone: (213) 637-7888
Fax: (213) 637-6888

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

30 January 2006

The Most Reverend Diarmuid Martin
Archbishop of Dublin
Archbishop's House
Drumcondra
Dublin 9
IRELAND

Your Grace,

I am writing in the name of Cardinal Roger Michael Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, to request information concerning the Reverend Sean Cronin.

Although ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Father Cronin was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin on 7 October 1967. After his ordination to the diaconate, the Seminary Council evidently judged Cronin to be unfit for promotion to priesthood and he subsequently served for a time as a missionary in Africa. It was there that he met the former Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He came to Los Angeles as a deacon in 1972, was incardinated, and was then ordained to the priesthood in 1973.

In 2003, two lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese in conjunction with accusations advanced by two different men who claimed that Father Cronin had sexually abused them when they were minors. An initial evaluation of these allegations found them to have the semblance of truth, wherefore the Archdiocese began a preliminary investigation and placed Father Cronin on administrative leave pending a final resolution of the matter. In accordance with the requirements of the Motu Proprio *Sacramentorum Sanctitatis Tutela*, a full report of these accusations, including the results of the ensuing preliminary investigation, was sent to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which, on 12 November 2005, granted authorization for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to initiate a penal process against Father Cronin.

The information I am now seeking from Your Grace is that relative to the decision of the Seminary Council judging Cronin unfit for ordination to the priesthood. Specifically, if that judgment was in any way based on inappropriate sexual behavior on the part of Cronin, I would respectfully request a complete report of this, as this will be most helpful in providing the Court with more complete information and evidence regarding the matter that will soon be brought before it for adjudication.

Thanking you for your kind assistance in this matter, and looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

[redacted]

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

May 13, 2006

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Father Cronin:

This is to confirm my receipt of your letter, dated 14 April 2006 responding to my earlier letter of 13 March 2006.

You expressed your desire to have the opening of the canonical trial regarding the allegations made against you deferred until the civil lawsuits have been concluded. We will respect this request and place the matter on hold, informing the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith of this fact. Once the lawsuits are settled or resolved by civil trial, we will then initiate the canonical proceeding.

This is also to confirm that we have received your Mandate appointing Mr. [redacted] J.C.D., J.D. to represent you in any canonical proceeding.

As you may know, I will be completing my term of service as Vicar for Clergy at the end of June. Subsequent to that date, please feel free to contact Monsignor Gabriel Gonzales who will assume the responsibility of Vicar for Clergy in July.

May the grace and peace of Jesus Risen fill you in this Easter season!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

cc: Charles G. Renati, J.C.D., J.D.

RECEIVED
APR 24 2006
BY:______

14. IV. 06.

Dear Msgr. Cox,

Thank you for your letter of 13 III. 06.

Having considered its contents and having consulted with a canon lawyer, I have decided to put off my canonical trial until after the civil law suits have been concluded.

At the time of my canonical trial, I wish to be represented by [redacted] J.C.D., J.D. whom I appoint as my Advocate/Procurator by the enclosed MANDATE.

Thanking you for your prayers and good wishes.

Yours in Christ

Sean Cronin.

MANDATE

Pursuant to Canon 1481 of the Code of Canon Law, I, REVEREND SEAN CRONIN, hereby appoint REDACTED to represent me as my canonical counsel, Advocate and Procurator in all matters pertaining to my canonical status and position in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, California and to any investigation, legal process or other action of any kind involving allegations of sexual abuse brought against me, including any recourse taken from any such process or action.

Dated: April 5, 2006

Reverend Sean Cronin

I hereby accept the appointment set forth in the above Mandate of Reverend Sean Cronin.

Dated: April 5, 2006

REDACTED

Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2004 6:41 AM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Fwd: My pain

Forward this to Father Sean Cronin.

[redacted]> wrote:

> Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2004 06:23:49 -0800 (PST)
> From: [redacted]
> Subject: My pain
> To: [redacted]om
>
> Father Cronin,
>
> I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine.
>
> I warned you twenty four years ago to stay away from me. Remember that phone call ??? I also told you that you were very lucky I didn't go to my father, the church, or the police. You took advantage of my trust in you at a time when I was very vulnerable. You knew the circumstances surrounding my profound sadness from my parents divorce and the confusion I felt. I came to you for spiritual guidance and support. That's what my father always told me to do. He told me I could and should go to a priest.
>
> You know what happened. You know that you were grooming me for sex.
>
> Let me refresh your memory. Remember the dinners at the Azteca Restaurant ??? Remember ordering drinks for both of us ??? Remember kissing me on the lips and telling me that it wasn't unusual behavior with men in European cultures ??? Remember asking me about how often I masturbated ??? Remember telling me that you also masturbated ??? Remember the foreign film that we saw together in Santa Monica that you insisted I see ??? Remember the homosexual sex scenes ??? Remember how interested you were in my sex life with my girlfriend ??? Remember telling me that I shouldn't tell anybody else what we talk about ??? That they might not understand ??? Remember the Cognac we drank together at your residence ??? Remember asking to see the birthmark on my penis ??? Remember, remember, remember !!!
>
> Father Cronin, my memory is very clear. How's yours ???
>
> You can imagine how devastated I was when I read you had denied the allegations. Do you realize what that's done to me ??? Do you realize what it's done to my wife and children ??? Yes, I have two absolutely beautiful children who wonder why their father is so sad. They wonder why their father has become so angry. They wonder why he can't sleep at night. They wonder, Father Cronin, they wonder.
>
> You owe it to me, my children, the church and yourself to tell the truth. Stop being the source of

so many people's pain. You are an extremely selfish man. You're only interested in saving yourself and your reputation.

God will be your judge, Father Cronin. You must save yourself.

Tell your attorney no more denials. No more lying. No more hurting.

Please.

[redacted]

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Search - Find what you're looking for faster.

Notes on the meeting of REDACTED
with REDACTED **Vicar for Clergy Office – 10/7/1999 – 10:30 AM**
concerning Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

COPY

REDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2241

October 19, 1999

Reverend Sean Cronin
Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Church
25511 Eshelman Avenue
Lomita, CA 90717-1827

Dear Father Cronin,

REDACTED

REDACTED

PAXI REDACTED
REDACTED

MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL

To: REDACTED

From: REDACTED

Date: Thursday, October 14, 1999

Re: Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

PROFFER RE FATHER SEAN CRONIN

Date	Description
10/26/43	Cronin born in Ireland.
10/7/67	Cronin ordained for the Diocese of Dublin, Ireland.
8/69-8/72	Cronin missionary in Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya, East Africa.
9/5/72	Cronin appointed Deacon at St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys.
9/8/73	Cronin incardinated into Archdiocese of Los Angeles.
9/8/73	Cronin assigned to St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys, CA.
12/27/75	Cronin assigned to St. Andrews Church, Pasadena.
3/3/77	Ltr from pastor at St. Andrews to Archbishop that Archbishop had asked pastor about the question of reference to Cronin's association with boys in his room. Pastor indicates it is a matter of doubt.
7/1/77	Cronin assigned to St. Monica Church, Santa Monica, and assigned to teach full time at St. Monica High School.
7/10/79	Cronin assigned to teach at St. Michael High School, Los Angeles, and to live at St. Michael's Church with faculties as an associate.
10/8/82	Cronin appointed to be in residence at St. Helen Church, South Gate, with faculties as an associate.
1/11/84	Cardinal Manning grants permission for Cronin to join the faculty of Marymount College, Palos Verdes.
10/1/84	Cronin assigned to faculty of Marymount College and granted faculties of an Associate at Holy Trinity. Placed in residence at St. Peter and Paul Church, Wilmington
7/6/88	Cronin placed in residence at St. Margaret Mary, Lomita. Continues to teach at Marymount College.
1991-92	Cronin on Sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Subsequently returns to faculty at Marymount College.
9/23/99	Memo from the president of Marymount College that he had reported to a regional bishop that a student (adult male[redacted]) had reported inappropriate conversation by Cronin who had apparently been drinking. No allegation of sexual contact. Allegations in the nature of sexual harassment.
10/6/99	Memo of Vicar for Clergy of his interview of two additional Marymount College students (male adults:[redacted]) who reported inappropriate conversation and behavior by Cronin. No allegations of sexual contact. Allegations are in the nature of sexual harassment.

10/7/99	Notes of meeting of Vicar for Clergy, the president of Marymount College, and [redacted] described an incident with Father Cronin. There was no sexual contact involved and [redacted] was an adult at the time of the incident.
10/19/99	Ltr from Vicar for Clergy to Cronin requesting that he be given a psychotherapeutic evaluation, participate in counseling on boundary issues, , participate in outpatient therapy and that he would be reassigned to a new ministry.
10/19/99	Telecon of Vicar for Clergy and president of Marymount College re [redacted] (an adult)
10/19/99	Email from Staff psychologist in Vicar for Clergy's Office to Vicar for Clergy confirming that college was ministering to two students. Both of these students were adults at all relevant times.
11/5/99	Letter from attorney for Archdiocese to Father Cronin's civil attorney concerning the transfer of Father Cronin at the end of the school year. This does not relate to childhood sexual abuse.
1/7/00	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to Archbishop that new concerns about Father Cronin's drinking had arisen.
2/10/00 – 9/30/00	Fr. Cronin undergoes in-patient treatment for alcoholism at Guest House in Rochester, Minnesota.
10/1/00	Cronin assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Northridge.
2/12-16/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
9/10-14/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
2/25-28/02	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
1/7/03	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to file that he had advised Fr. Cronin that his name had appeared on a list of alleged perpetrators of sexual misconduct with minors prepared by attorneys for prospective plaintiffs. The misconduct allegedly occurred while Cronin was assigned to St. Genevieve's from 1973-75.

REDACTED

From: REDACTED
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2002 11:24 PM
To: REDACTED
Subject: Misconduct

Dear REDACTED

Thank you for getting back to me. I've forwarded my allegations to Detective REDACTED as you suggested. I would rather not make this a police matter. I certainly would not any legal action taken against this man because I honestly feel this is a matter for the church and he should be diciplined accordingly. The misconduct occured 20 years ago and has been a burden for me. I'm very concerned for my privacy and certainly would not want my family involved in any way. If I was to go forward with a police report, what would happen to the priest in question ???

REDACTED

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Substance Abuse Ministry
Office (213) 637-7644
Residence (213) 223-8082

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2241

Memo
Feb. 10, 2000
To: REDACTED
From: REDACTED
REDACTED
Re: Father Sean Cronin
REDACTED

REDACTED
Cc:

MEMORANDUM

To: REDACTED

From: REDACTED

Date: **Friday, January 07, 2000**

Re: **Father Sean Cronin**

REDACTED

Notes on the phone conversation of REDACTED
with REDACTED **– 10/7/1999 – approx. 10:00 AM**
concerning Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

INTER OFFICE

MEMO

To: Legal File
From: REDACTED
Subject: Complaint regarding Fr. Sean
Date: September 21, 1999

REDACTED
REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED
REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

File Copy

OFFICE OF ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

TO: REDACTED

FROM: REDACTED
Coordinator

RE: REDACTED

DATE: May 3, 2004

Thank you for agreeing to provide service to the above-named individual. I am enclosing the following: Archdiocesan Guidelines for Pastoral Outreach to Victim-Survivors of Clergy Sexual Misconduct, Survivors of Clergy Abuse Initial Treatment Plan, Patient Release Form, and the Psychotherapeutic Service Provider Information Form.

So that my Office can monitor the progress of those we refer for counseling, we ask that you please cooperate with the following:

1. ***Initial Treatment Plan***:

   Please complete and return the attached form by the third visit. It has been designed for efficient time management. Remember to include a copy of your Release of Information form for our records.

2. ***Progress Reports***:

   We require you to complete progress reports *every ten sessions*. My Office will send you a short form for this purpose when it is time for a progress report.

3. ***Final Summary Report***:

   This form will be sent to you when you notify my Office you are planning to terminate treatment.

4. ***Confidentiality***:

   We understand the importance of confidentiality if you are to develop and maintain a healthy alliance with your patients. However, I do ask that you:

Memorandum to
Date May 3, 2004
Page 2

A. Focus treatment on dealing with recovery from the clergy abuse;

B. Notify me if you need a Child Abuse Report or a Duty to Warn Report;

C. Notify me if suicide potential is a serious concern;

D. Keep me informed of any important problems as they arise.

5. ***Reimbursement for Services***:

The agreed fee for services will be determined between the Assistance Ministry Office Coordinator and the therapist regarding the particular client. ***We do not assume responsibility for payment for late cancellations or "no shows" for appointments. Any billing for these situations should be made to the individual in therapy***. Please include your Social Security number or Tax I.D.# on the bill, and send it in a timely manner to my office.

Please enclose a copy of your curriculum vita, copy of your license, and current malpractice insurance.

REDACTED

If you have questions, I can be reached a

I look forward to working with you.

Enclosures (4)

FILE OR CASE # Cronin

SURVIVOR THERAPY RECORD

REDACTED REDACTED

SURVIVOR _ THERAPIST

DATE INITIAL MEMO AND TREATMENT PLAN SENT: 5-3-04

DATE INITIAL TREATMENT PLAN AND RELEASE RECEIVED 6-1-04

START THERAPIST PROGRESS REPORTS DATE ______

PROGRESS REPORT #1 REQUEST SENT 8-31-04 RECEIVED 10-12-04

PROGRESS REPORT #2 REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

PROGRESS REPORT #3 REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

PROGRESS REPORT #4 REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

PROGRESS REPORT #5 REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

PROGRESS REPORT #6 REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

FINAL SUMMARY REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

SURVIVOR EVALUATION REQUEST SENT ______ RECEIVED ______

Therapist Address: ______

Dear [redacted]

I know that Msgr. Cox left for his annual retreat and is out of the office now. I have no knowledge of any of the priests process.

I wanted to let you know that I hope you got started with [redacted] in therapy. Let me know if it's helpful. [redacted]

-----Original Message-----
From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 9:05 AM
To: [redacted]
Subject: RE: Father Sean Cronin

I'm forwarding your message to Assistance Minister [redacted] with a copy to Msgr. Cox's office. I'm praying for everyone involved. *j

[redacted]
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

From: [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, May 19, 2004 6:04 AM
To: Webmaster
Please forward this to somebody who cares.

[redacted]

Date: Wed, 19 May 2004 05:57:22 -0700 (PDT)
From [redacted]
Subject: Father Sean Cronin
To: MsgrCACox [redacted]

Dear Msgr. Cox,

As you probably already know, I met with [redacted] the Special Investigator. I came to Los Angeles at my own time and expense to meet with him. I did what you asked me to do. I feel it's only fair that you tell me what has been done about Sean Cronin. What was the result of the investigation ??? Is Sean Cronin going to be removed or has he been removed ??? Is the Archdiocese going to honor the " Zero Tolerance " policy ???

Healing also begins with communication Msgr. Please give me an answer. I deserve that much. Please let me know.

Thank you.

[redacted]

98007

INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
OF SEXUAL ABUSE ALLEGATIONS
AGAINST FATHER SEAN CRONIN

REDACTED

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
311 NORTH RAYMOND AVENUE
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91103

[redacted]
PASTOR

TEL. 792-418:

Friday, March 3rd 1977.

Eminence;

When we talked Sunday about Sean you asked me twice about the question of reference to his association with boys in his room. I was thinking since about that matter. Seeing that it is a matter of doubt, perhaps it would be better not to mention it. If this is a problem, I feel it will come up in a more specific way in the future.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of the
Vicar for Canonical Services
Phone: (213) 637-7888
Fax: (213) 637-6888

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

30 January 2006

The Most Reverend Diarmuid Martin
Archbishop of Dublin
Archbishop's House
Drumcondra
Dublin 9
IRELAND

Your Grace,

I am writing in the name of Cardinal Roger Michael Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, to request information concerning the Reverend Sean Cronin.

Although ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Father Cronin was originally ordained as a deacon for the Archdiocese of Dublin on 7 October 1967. After his ordination to the diaconate, the Seminary Council evidently judged Cronin to be unfit for promotion to priesthood and he subsequently served for a time as a missionary in Africa. It was there that he met the former Archbishop of Los Angeles, Cardinal Timothy Manning, and was invited to serve in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. He came to Los Angeles as a deacon in 1972, was incardinated, and was then ordained to the priesthood in 1973.

In 2003, two lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese in conjunction with accusations advanced by two different men who claimed that Father Cronin had sexually abused them when they were minors. An initial evaluation of these allegations found them to have the semblance of truth, wherefore the Archdiocese began a preliminary investigation and placed Father Cronin on administrative leave pending a final resolution of the matter. In accordance with the requirements of the Motu Proprio *Sacramentorum Sanctitatis Tutela*, a full report of these accusations, including the results of the ensuing preliminary investigation, was sent to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, which, on 12 November 2005, granted authorization for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to initiate a penal process against Father Cronin.

The information I am now seeking from Your Grace is that relative to the decision of the Seminary Council judging Cronin unfit for ordination to the priesthood. Specifically, if that judgment was in any way based on inappropriate sexual behavior on the part of Cronin, I would respectfully request a complete report of this, as this will be most helpful in providing the Court with more complete information and evidence regarding the matter that will soon be brought before it for adjudication.

Thanking you for your kind assistance in this matter, and looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,
REDACTED

DIARMUID MARTIN
ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN

24th February 2006

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] Boulevard
Los Angeles CA 90010-2202
United States of America

Dear [redacted]

I refer to your letter of 30th January concerning the Reverend Sean Cronin, a former seminarian for the diocese of Dublin, ordained deacon in 1967, who was asked to leave the diocesan seminary in 1968. He was later ordained for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Father Cronin was asked to leave the seminary because of a complaint made by a fellow student – now ordained – of homosexual advances. The decision of the College Council to dismiss him because of "grave fear of homosexual tendencies" was unanimous.

The seminary records show that doubts had been expressed at various stages of Father Cronin's time in the seminary. In 1966 he was sent for assessment by a Psychiatrist. The following comments from the result of the assessment may be of interest" "He is a rather vulnerable personality"; "his rather effeminate manner could be a cause of concern" "I went as thoroughly as I could into his sexual orientation at a single interview and I am reasonably sure that he is heterosexual" "On the basis of my examination I could not find any psychiatric reason for advising him not to proceed to the priesthood".

In the months succeeding his dismissal, approaches were made to the Archdiocese of Dublin by the Bishop of Eldoret (Kenya), the Archbishop of Southwark (England), the Bishop of Leeds (England) the Bishop of Fresno (Bishop Timothy Manning, 26th August 1968) as well as by a number of intermediaries. . The replies of my predecessor Archbishop McQuaid were unambiguous: "not one hope of ever being received by a Bishop", "I could not in conscience agree to his being advanced to the priesthood", "I cannot give a 'nihil obstat' for his entry into any diocese".

Archbishop Dermot Ryan succeeded Archbishop McQuaid in 1972 and almost immediately received a request to release Sean Cronin for

incardination into the diocese of Los Angeles. From the correspondence it would appear that some members of the College Council had in the meantime had some doubts about their earlier decision. The matter was put again to the College Council and the following recommendation was sent to the Archbishop "It is the recommendation of the Council that Sean Cronin be granted excardination from the diocese. The responsibility for ordaining him will rest on the Bishop who accepts him".

The reason for the change of opinion was due to the fact that the seminarian who had made the complaint had later accused another person of homosexual behaviour and this accusation was felt to be unfounded. I must add that Archbishop McQuaid was aware of this change of view yet still refused to change his adamant position that Sean Cronin should not be advanced to ordination.

I knew Sean Cronin personally being just one year behind him in the seminary. I also know the priest who had accused him and I have spoken to him again in these days and he categorically repeats the allegation. I have no reason to doubt him.

The file of Sean Cronin shows that he put enormous pressure on a wide range of persons to have him accepted in another diocese, even as Archbishop McQuaid consistently told him that he would not be recommended. To my knowledge, Archbishop Ryan, as opposed to Archbishop McQuaid, did not know Sean Cronin personally and may have benignly conceded to the pressure of requests orchestrated by Father Cronin.

I hope that this information is of use to you and I remain at your service for any other help I can provide

Yours very sincerely

+ Diarmuid Martin

Diarmuid Martin
Archbishop of Dublin

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of the
Vicar for Canonical Services
Phone: (213) 637-7888
Fax: (213) 637-6888

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

7 March 2006

The Most Reverend Diarmuid Martin
Archbishop of Dublin
Archbishop's House
Drumcondra
Dublin 9
IRELAND

Your Grace,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your kind letter of 24 February last, responding to my query concerning the Reverend Sean Cronin.

The information which you provided will prove most useful in the canonical process that will soon be undertaken with regard to Father Cronin, and I thank you for both the promptness and the completeness of your reply. I am also grateful for your offer of further assistance should the need arise, although — and I am happy to say — it is not foreseen that any further information will be necessary.

Thanking you once more for your kind assistance in this delicate matter, and assuring you of my prayerful good wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ, [redacted]

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

May 13, 2006

Personal and Confidential

Reverend Sean Cronin
c/o Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325

Dear Father Cronin:

This is to confirm my receipt of your letter, dated 14 April 2006 responding to my earlier letter of 13 March 2006.

You expressed your desire to have the opening of the canonical trial regarding the allegations made against you deferred until the civil lawsuits have been concluded. We will respect this request and place the matter on hold, informing the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith of this fact. Once the lawsuits are settled or resolved by civil trial, we will then initiate the canonical proceeding.

This is also to confirm that we have received your Mandate appointing [redacted] to represent you in any canonical proceeding.

As you may know, I will be completing my term of service as Vicar for Clergy at the end of June. Subsequent to that date, please feel free to contact Monsignor Gabriel Gonzales who will assume the responsibility of Vicar for Clergy in July.

May the grace and peace of Jesus Risen fill you in this Easter season!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

cc: [redacted]

RECEIVED
APR 24 2006
BY:

14. IV. 06.

Dear Msgr. Cox,

Thank you for your letter of 13. III. 06.

Having considered its contents and having consulted with a canon lawyer, I have decided to put off my canonical trial until after the civil law suits have been concluded.

At the time of my canonical trial, I wish to be represented by [redacted] whom I appoint as my Advocate/Procurator by the enclosed MANDATE.

Thanking you for your prayers and good wishes.

Yours in Christ,

Seán Cronin.

MANDATE

Pursuant to Canon 1481 of the Code of Canon Law. I. REVEREND SEAN CRONIN, hereby appoint REDACTED to represent me as my canonical counsel, Advocate and Procurator in all matters pertaining to my canonical status and position in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, California and to any investigation, legal process or other action of any kind involving allegations of sexual abuse brought against me, including any recourse taken from any such process or action.

Dated: April 5, 2006

Reverend Sean Cronin

I hereby accept the appointment set forth in the above Mandate of Reverend Sean Cronin.

Dated: April 5, 2006

REDACTED

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

REDACTED

3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles California 90010-2241

October 19, 1999

Reverend Sean Cronin
Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Church
25511 Eshelman Avenue
Lomita, CA 90717-1827
REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

PROFFER RE FATHER SEAN CRONIN

Date	Description
10/26/43	Cronin born in Ireland.
10/7/67	Cronin ordained for the Diocese of Dublin, Ireland.
8/69-8/72	Cronin missionary in Diocese of Eldoret, Kenya, East Africa.
9/5/72	Cronin appointed Deacon at St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys.
9/8/73	Cronin incardinated into Archdiocese of Los Angeles.
9/8/73	Cronin assigned to St. Genevieve Church, Van Nuys, CA.
12/27/75	Cronin assigned to St. Andrews Church, Pasadena.
3/3/77	Ltr from pastor at St. Andrews to Archbishop that Archbishop had asked pastor about the question of reference to Cronin's association with boys in his room. Pastor indicates it is a matter of doubt.
7/1/77	Cronin assigned to St. Monica Church, Santa Monica, and assigned to teach full time at St. Monica High School.
7/10/79	Cronin assigned to teach at St. Michael High School, Los Angeles, and to live at St. Michael's Church with faculties as an associate.
10/8/82	Cronin appointed to be in residence at St. Helen Church, South Gate, with faculties as an associate.
1/11/84	Cardinal Manning grants permission for Cronin to join the faculty of Marymount College, Palos Verdes.
10/1/84	Cronin assigned to faculty of Marymount College and granted faculties of an Associate at Holy Trinity. Placed in residence at St. Peter and Paul Church, Wilmington
7/6/88	Cronin placed in residence at St. Margaret Mary, Lomita. Continues to teach at Marymount College.
1991-92	Cronin on Sabbatical at Oxford University, England. Subsequently returns to faculty at Marymount College.
9/23/99	Memo from the president of Marymount College that he had reported to a regional bishop that a student (adult male [redacted]) had reported inappropriate conversation by Cronin who had apparently been drinking. No allegation of sexual contact. Allegations in the nature of sexual harassment.
10/6/99	Memo of Vicar for Clergy of his interview of two additional Marymount College students (male adults: [redacted] who reported inappropriate conversation and behavior by Cronin. No allegations of sexual contact. Allegations are in the nature of sexual harassment.

10/7/99	Notes of meeting of Vicar for Clergy, the president of Marymount College, and [redacted] described an incident with Father Cronin. There was no sexual contact involved and [redacted] was an adult at the time of the incident.
10/19/99	Ltr from Vicar for Clergy to Cronin requesting that he be given a psychotherapeutic evaluation, participate in counseling on boundary issues, , participate in outpatient therapy and that he would be reassigned to a new ministry.
10/19/99	Telecon of Vicar for Clergy and president of Marymount College re [redacted] (an adult)
10/19/99	Email from Staff psychologist in Vicar for Clergy's Office to Vicar for Clergy confirming that college was ministering to two students. Both of these students were adults at all relevant times.
11/5/99	Letter from attorney for Archdiocese to Father Cronin's civil attorney concerning the transfer of Father Cronin at the end of the school year. This does not relate to childhood sexual abuse.
1/7/00	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to Archbishop that new concerns about Father Cronin's drinking had arisen.
2/10/00 – 9/30/00	Fr. Cronin undergoes in-patient treatment for alcoholism at Guest House in Rochester, Minnesota.
10/1/00	Cronin assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Northridge.
2/12-16/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
9/10-14/01	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
2/25-28/02	Cronin participates in aftercare program at Guest House in Rochester, MN.
1/7/03	Memo from Vicar for Clergy to file that he had advised Fr. Cronin that his name had appeared on a list of alleged perpetrators of sexual misconduct with minors prepared by attorneys for prospective plaintiffs. The misconduct allegedly occurred while Cronin was assigned to St. Genevieve's from 1973-75.

Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

From: [redacted]
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2004 6:41 AM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Fwd: My pain

Forward this to Father Sean Cronin.

[redacted] wrote:

Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2004 06:23:49 -0800 (PST)
From: [redacted]
Subject: My pain
To: drcronin[redacted]

Father Cronin,

I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine.

I warned you twenty four years ago to stay away from me. Remember that phone call ??? I also told you that you were very lucky I didn't go to my father, the church, or the police. You took advantage of my trust in you at a time when I was very vulnerable. You knew the circumstances surrounding my profound sadness from my parents divorce and the confusion I felt. I came to you for spiritual guidance and support. That's what my father always told me to do. He told me I could and should go to a priest.

You know what happened. You know that you were grooming me for sex.

Let me refresh your memory. Remember the dinners at the Azteca Restaurant ??? Remember ordering drinks for both of us ??? Remember kissing me on the lips and telling me that it wasn't unusual behavior with men in European cultures ??? Remember asking me about how often I masturbated ??? Remember telling me that you also masturbated ??? Remember the foreign film that we saw together in Santa Monica that you insisted I see ??? Remember the homosexual sex scenes ??? Remember how interested you were in my sex life with my girlfriend ??? Remember telling me that I shouldn't tell anybody else what we talk about ??? That they might not understand ??? Remember the Cognac we drank together at your residence ??? Remember asking to see the birthmark on my penis ??? Remember, remember, remember !!!

Father Cronin, my memory is very clear. How's yours ???

You can imagine how devastated I was when I read you had denied the allegations. Do you realize what that's done to me ??? Do you realize what it's done to my wife and children ??? Yes, I have two absolutely beautiful children who wonder why their father is so sad. They wonder why their father has become so angry. They wonder why he can't sleep at night. They wonder, Father Cronin, they wonder.

You owe it to me, my children, the church and yourself to tell the truth. Stop being the source of

so many people's pain. You are an extremely selfish man. You're only interested in saving yourself and your reputation.

God will be your judge, Father Cronin. You must save yourself.

Tell your attorney no more denials. No more lying. No more hurting.

Please.

REDACTED

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Search - Find what you're looking for faster.

FILE

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of
Vicar for Clergy
(213) 637-7284

3424
Wilshire
Boulevard

Los Angeles
California
90010-2202

July 13, 2004

Reverend Sean Cronin
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
18405 Superior Street
Northridge, CA 91325-1798

Dear Father Cronin:

Let me begin by assuring you of my prayers in this difficult time. If I can be of service to you, please let me know.

This letter is to confirm in writing the essential content of our meeting today. I indicated to you that, since the filing of the two lawsuits alleging sexual abuse of minors on your part, a preliminary investigation was initiated in accord with canon 1717. I explained that, in the course of this investigation, a canonical auditor has been able to interview the two plaintiffs and has conducted further investigations. I also explained that the canonical auditor very much wishes to have an opportunity to interview you about these allegations. You are welcome to have a canonical advisor present at that interview. We hope to be able to schedule a day and time for that interview as soon as reasonably possible.

Second, I indicated that the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board has several times examined the allegations brought against you. Initially, the Board recommended you be maintained in ministry as the investigation commenced. In its most recent review, the Board recommended that the investigation had progressed to a point where it was now appropriate to place you on administrative leave. Cardinal Mahony has approved the Board's recommendation. The leave became effective on this date at the time I personally notified you.

Please note that being placed on administrative leave does not involve any final judgment on our part that the allegations are true or false. It does reflect the fact that, as a result of the progress of the preliminary investigation, a formal canonical process is warranted. After you have the opportunity to be interviewed, the Cardinal will remand this matter to the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith as required by the Apostolic Letter *Sacrmentorum sanctitatis tutela*. Administrative leave is a step taken to protect both you and others as the canonical process unfolds and leads to a final determination.

During this time of leave, I direct that you engage in no public ministry without my specific authorization or that of the Cardinal. I hereby issue the warning of canon 1347 to inform you that any violation of this prohibition would render you liable to canonical penalties.

During your administrative leave, you are to leave your residence at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish as soon as reasonably possible and take up residence in a place we mutually agree upon. During your leave, your salary and benefits will be paid by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The Archdiocese will also reimburse you for the reasonable expenses of a canonical advocate.

During this traumatic time, let me renew my invitation to make use of one of our counselors to assist you in dealing with the stresses and tensions that being on a leave necessarily entails.

Again, please know that you are in my prayers. May the Lord guide and strengthen you with the blessings you need!

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

TO: File

FROM: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

RE: Reverend Sean Cronin

DATE: 14 July 2004

Last night I spoke with Father Cronin and placed him on administrative leave.

He mentioned that he had agreed to do a funeral on Friday morning for a family that specifically asked for him. The Pastor is on vacation and the Associate just arrived in the parish. For Father Cronin not to do this funeral would cause distress and raise questions. He asked about authorization to do that funeral.

I indicated that I understood the situation, and that I did not want rumors circulating in the parish before we make our weekend announcements. I told him I would consult.

I phoned by Cardinal Mahony an[redacted] Both agreed with me that it was appropriate to authorize Father Cronin to handle the funeral liturgies. I informed Father Cronin of this by phone this morning.

Notes on the meeting of REDACTED
with REDACTED **- 10/7/1999 – 10:30 AM**
concerning Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

CONGREGATIO
PRO DOCTRINA FIDEI

00120 Città del Vaticano,
Palazzo del S. Uffizio 12 November 2005

PROT. N. 782/2004 – 22104
(In responsione fiat mentio huius numeri)

CONFIDENTIAL

Your Eminence,

Thank you for your correspondence of 19 November 2004 regarding the **Rev. Sean CRONIN**, a priest of your Archdiocese accused of the sexual abuse of minors.

After having carefully examined the *Acta*, and in light of Your Eminence's comments, this Congregation grants the requested derogation from prescription for action concerning the delict of sexual abuse of a minor. You are thus authorized to initiate a penal process as soon as possible.

Your Eminence is kindly requested to inform the accused of the allegations and proofs, while affording him the opportunity, via his canonical advocate, of a proper defence. On completion of the above-mentioned process at First Instance, the Tribunal is asked to forward the *Acta* to the Congregation.

With gratitude for your kindness and prayerful best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely in Christ,

+William J. Levada

✠ William J. LEVADA
Archbishop Emeritus of San Francisco
Prefect

His Eminence
Roger Cardinal Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles
Office of the Archbishop
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2202
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3687

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 25.695
This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer

November 12, 2004

Dear Monsignor Cox:

I acknowledge your kind letter of November 9, 2004, with enclosures.

Rest assured that the correspondence concerning the **Reverend Sean Cronin**, including check for taxa in amount $500.00 will be duly forwarded through the diplomatic pouch to His Eminence, Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, Prefect, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

With cordial regards and best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Gabriel Montalvo

Archbishop Gabriel Montalvo
Apostolic Nuncio

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy
Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010-2241

NOV 17 2004

CMOB #	υ67
Considered by CMOB	☑
Inactive Date	
Case Name	College Chaplin
Active Case?	☑

Priest Name	Cronin, Sean
DOB	10/26/1943
Ethnicity	Irish
Diocese	Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Canon State	Diocesan Priest
Religious Order	
Incardination	Los Angeles
Date Of Ordination	1973
Clergy Status	Administrative Leave

Clergy (Faculties)	
Religious	☐
Diocesan	☐
Description	

Deacon	
DOB	
Diocese	
Ethnicity	
Ordination	
Status	

Date Referred to Vicar	11/12/2003
Date Of Alleged Incident	1968
Alleged Victim	Minor Male
Multiple Victims	☐
Accusers	
Investigation Complete	☐
Investigator Name	REDACTED
Removed From Ministry	☐
Date Removed From Ministry	
Date Returned To Ministry	
Case Disposition	
DispositionComments	
Intervention	☐
Description	Anglo, Assoc. Pastor, age 60, ordained in 1973. In 1999 three male students alleged Fr. X, a college chaplain, was "coming on" to them with sexual comments, inappropriate touching of buttocks, unwanted attentions; both faculty & students report smelling alcohol on his breath. Fr. X removed as chaplain & REDACTED REDACTED Therapy was offered to young men. REDACTED REDACTED . In Jan. 2003 Fr. X appeared on attorney list of alleged perpetrators of minors with sketchy information; Fr. X denied any misconduct. In Oct. 2003 a

/ised list included descriptions of allegations (;rious abusive behavior with two minor boys, one alleging abuse from 1968-77 & the other from 1979-82. Investigation just initiated. No action taken as yet.

Case Status

November 12, 2003	It was the consensus of the Board that the matter be investigated by the Investigator and that a follow up report be made at the next meeting.
January 28, 2004	Msgr. Cox stated that after consultation, it was agreed that announcements be made this weekend at Fr.'s parishes prior to media coverage.
June 09, 2004	The Board suggested an attempt be made to obtain medical records regarding the second complainant. It was the consensus that an interview and/or the plaintiff's questionnaire with regard to the first complainant be obtained as soon as possible and that Fr. be confronted with the allegations. This matter should return to the Board at the next meeting on 6/23 for further consideration.
June 23, 2004	The Board recommended the following: 1) Fr. Cronin be confronted by V/C & the canonical auditor, questioned & given an opportunity to respond; 2) Unless his statement produces information requiring further investigation and/or consideration by the Board, he be placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues & an announcement would be made at the parish; 3) Report be made to CMOB at the next meeting; and 4) Efforts be made to interview the plaintiff.
July 14, 2004	Investigator REDACTED was able to interview the first complainant. Msgr. Cox met with Fr. X last night and placed him on administrative leave. Announcements will be made in the parish this weekend
September 08, 2004	Announcements were made weekend of July 17-18,2004. Investigation is on-going
November 10, 2004	Father Cronin was put on administrative leave in July and is staying with family friends. The matter was referred to Rome on November 9, 2004 requesting a full canonical trial, and if found guilty, to be dismissed from the clerical state.
February 09, 2005	The matter is in Rome for consideration.
March 22, 2006	Trial has been authorized by Rome and is expected to begin in the near future. Father was given the option to resign but wants to go forward with the trial.
June 14, 2006	Trial will be postponed until the lawsuits are settled or tried.
June 14, 2006	The canonoical trial will be postponed until the lawsuits are settled.
May 24, 2010	Fr. X has agreed to petition the Holy Father for laicization.

Follow Up			
Follow Up Date			
Legal Proceedings			
Legal Proceedings?	☐		
Court Cases Settled			
Response			
Response Date			
Sent To Rome?	☑	*Date Sent To Rome*	
Canonical Trial	☑	*Canonical Trial Date*	
Canonical Disposition			
Page	8		

ID	67
CMOB #	067
Case Name	College Chaplin
Active Case?	☑
Cleric Name	Sean Cronin
Cleric Age	60
Cleric Ethnicity	Anglo
Incardination	Los Angeles
Date Of Ordination	1973
Clergy Status	On Leave
Date Referred To Vicar	11/12/2003
Claimant	Minor Male
Date Of Alleged Incident	1968
Investigation Complete	☐
Investigator Name	REDACTED
Date Investigation Initiated	
Date Investigation Completed	
Case Disposition	
Intervention	☐
Description	Anglo, Assoc. Pastor, age 60, ordained in 1973. In 1999 three male students alleged Fr. X, a college chaplain, was "coming on" to them with sexual comments, inappropriate touching of buttocks, unwanted attentions; both faculty & students report smelling alcohol on his breath. REDACTED REDACTED Therapy was offered to young men. REDACTED REDACTED . In Jan. 2003 Fr. X appeared on attorney list of alleged perpetrators of minors with sketchy information; Fr. X denied any misconduct. In Oct. 2003 a revised list included descriptions of allegations of serious abusive behavior with two minor boys, one alleging abuse from 1968-77 & the other from 1979-82. Investigation just initiated. No action taken as yet.

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Follow Up	Response from Rome		
Follow Up Date			
Legal Proceedings			
Sent To Rome?	☐	*Date Sent To Rome*	
Canonical Trial	☐	*Canonical Trial Date*	
Canonical Disposition			
Page	14		

Vicar for Clergy Database

Clergy Assignment Record



Rev Sean Cronin

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

REDACTED

Current Primary Assignment		*Age*	65
Birth Date	10/26/1943	*Deanery*	22
Birth City	Macroom, County Cork, Ireland		
Diaconate Ordination	10/7/1967		
Priesthood Ordination	9/8/1973		
Diocese Name	Archdiocese of Los Angeles		
Date of Incardination	6/13/1973		
Religious Community			
Ritual Ascription	Latin		
Ministry Status	Administrative Leave		
Seminary	Holy Cross College, Dublin, Ireland		
Ethnicity	Irish		
Fax phone	REDACTED		

Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training

Date Background Check

Safeguard Training

Assignment History

Assignment	***Beginning Date***	***Completion Date***
Administrative Leave	7/13/2004	
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Northridge Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service, Original term was from 10/1/2000 to 6/30/2005.	10/1/2000	7/13/2004
Sick Leave	2/10/2000	9/30/2000
Sabbatical, Oxford	1/1/1991	1/1/1992
St. Margaret Mary Alacoque Catholic Church, Lomita Resident, Active Service	7/6/1988	2/9/2000
SS. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Wilmington Resident, Resident	10/1/1984	7/5/1988
Marymount College, Rancho Palos Verdes Chaplain, Active Service, Also faculty	9/1/1984	2/9/2000
St. Helen Catholic Church, South Gate Resident, Resident	10/18/1982	9/30/1984

St. Michael High School, Los Angeles Education-Teacher/Faculty, Active Service	7/10/1979	8/31/1984
St. Michael Catholic Church, Los Angeles Resident, Resident	7/10/1979	10/17/1982
St. Monica High School, Santa Monica Education-Teacher/Faculty, Active Service	7/1/1977	7/9/1979
St. Monica Catholic Church, Santa Monica Resident, Resident	7/1/1977	7/7/1979
St. Andrew Catholic Church, Pasadena Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	12/27/1975	6/30/1977
St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Panorama City Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	9/8/1973	12/26/1975
St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Panorama City Deacon, Active Service	9/5/1972	9/7/1973

COPY

Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Office of Vicar for Clergy (213) 637-7284

3424 Wilshire Boulevard

Los Angeles California 90010-2202

August 11, 2004

Personal and Confidential

REDACTED

Dea REDACTED

In Cardinal Mahony's absence, I am replying to your letter addressed to him of July 19, 2004. First of all, let me thank you for writing and for expressing your support for Father Sean Cronin. I am glad that you and others have encountered blessings in his ministry. He is fortunate to be able to rely on your friendship and support in this difficult time.

It is not possible to answer many of the questions you raised, precisely because to do so would violate Father Cronin's rights, as well as the rights of other people involved in this process. The process we use fully respects the norms of canon law and the requirements of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. These norms include protections for the rights of an accused. There are indeed "people from the pews" represented on the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board, as well as well respected members of the presbyterate representing the priests of the Archdiocese. In addition, part of my task as a consultant to the Board is to assure that canonical procedures are followed and the rights of priests are respected. I take that responsibility very, very seriously. Your pastor REDACTED will be able to share with you my reputation with regard to protecting the rights of priests.

Having experienced the deliberations of the Board for well over a year now, I am wonderfully impressed at the balance, good judgment, and care for the rights of an accused that the members demonstrate time and again. At the same time, the members of the Board are constantly striving to do an even better job. For that reason, I shared your letter with REDACTED, the Chair of the Board, so that he would be fully aware of the concerns you raised.

There is oversight built into the system so that the actions of the Board, my own actions, and even the decisions of Cardinal are reviewed. Among other elements this oversight includes an annual audit conducted by the National Review Board and Conference of Bishops, the review of cases by the promoter of justice, and the oversight of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. The Council of Priests also reviews policies and procedures related to the investigation of claims of sexual misconduct and makes recommendations. As the canonical process moves forward, Father Cronin will be afforded the opportunity to exercise all of the elements of the right of defense provided by canon law.

I again want to thank you for writing. I realize I have not been able to answer all of your questions. As I mentioned, to get into too many specifics would require that I violate Father Cronin's rights and also violate my responsibility to maintain the confidentiality appropriate to ecclesiastical processes as I am bound to do by the Holy See.

Please continue to pray for Father Cronin, for Cardinal Mahony, for me in my challenging ministry, and for the members of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board. Finally, please pray that our ongoing investigation establishes uncovers the truth and results in a final decision that is just and in accord with the will of God.

May God bless you!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Monsignor Craig A. Cox, J.C.D.
Vicar for Clergy

REDACTED

cc:

MEMORANDUM

TO: Cardinal Roger M. Mahony

FROM: REDACTED · REDACTED
Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board

RE: *Recommendation of the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board*
Reverend Sean Cronin (CMOB 067-01)

DATE: 29 June 2004

The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board discussed the case of Father Sean Cronin on June 23, 2004.

In 1999, while Father Cronin was serving as chaplain at Marymount College, reports came to the administration of the College and the Vicar for Clergy that he was involved in boundary violations with sexual overtones with young adult students at the College. The reports were investigated and while no allegations of actual abuse emerged, there were sufficient concerns about his conduct to cause the Vicar to remove him from his service as chaplain. As part of the intervention, Father Cronin was required to take training in boundary issues and, in 2000-2001, he was treated at Guest House for alcohol/substance abuse issues.

In late 2002 and early 2003, Father Cronin's name emerged on a list of alleged abusers provided by the plaintiffs' attorneys. Two individuals were listed as plaintiffs. The brief summaries on the list indicated that one of the young merREDACTED was alleging serious abuse over a period of many years (1968-1977) beginning with the assignment of Father Cronin to St. Genevieve. The other complainant REDACTED alleged less egregious but still abusive activities from 1979-1982, beginning at St. Monica's. When informed that these two individuals were prospective plaintiffs, Father Cronin denied any misconduct. That denial was reiterated in a letter fromREDACTED, Father Cronin's attorney, in December of 2003.

In December of 2003, lawsuits were filed by the two men. The information in the lawsuits was sketchy in nature. In December 2003 and January 2004, one of our canonical auditors conducted some investigations. Announcements were made at Father Cronin's parish on the weekend of January 31 – February 1, 2004, informing the people that he had been accused by two individuals.

On April 16, 2004REDACTED canonical auditor, interviewecREDACTED. He described a lengthy period of contact with Father Cronin that began in counseling, and involved grooming behaviors, including being provided with alcohol, raising sexual topics in conversations, and taking him to a movie that involved scenes of homosexual activity. According to REDACTED REDACTED Fr. Cronin would gaze into his eyes and kiss him on the cheek. Eventually he claims that Father Cronin kissed him on the mouth, though without using his tongue.REDACTED

claims that finally, on one occasion, Fr. Cronin asked to see his penis. Apparently in an earlier conversation REDACTED had told Fr. Cronin he had a birthmark there. REDACTED did not comply with the request and asked Fr. Cronin to take him home immediately, which he did. This severed the relationship.

REDACTED followed up leads based on the statement of REDACTED but the only sort of corroborating information he could obtain were verifications that Fr. Cronin and REDACTED had spent a lot of time together.

Despite repeated efforts, we have not obtained the written questionnaire from the other plaintiff, REDACTED or his written statement as part of the mediation process.

The members of the Board discussed Fr. Cronin's case at length. Other means to try to corroborate the claims of REDACTED were considered but offer little prospect of success. If the claims of REDACTED are accurate, most of what he described consists of unprofessional behavior on the part of Fr. Cronin and a pattern of regular and serious crossing of boundaries. A few things, such as the request that the young man exhibit his genitals and the unsolicited kiss on the lips, even though not "French kissing," cross over the line into abuse. Also, while providing alcohol to a minor is not sexual misconduct per se, it is a violation of the law and is the kind of activity that accompanies "grooming."

The Board has been advised that at this point the evidence is most likely insufficient to convict Fr. Cronin if this case were to be brought to a canonical trial. However, it appears to the members that REDACTED allegations are credible. The claims he makes are "restrained." If he was simply inventing charges he could have claimed far more egregious activity. His allegations together with Fr. Cronin's subsequent boundary violations at Marymount and his difficulties with alcohol were all considered and contribute to the following recommendations:

1. That Father Cronin be invited to meet with the canonical auditor and Vicar for Clergy to be confronted and questioned and given the opportunity to respond.

2. That unless Fr. Cronin's statement produces information which, in my and REDACTED judgment, require further immediate investigation and/or consideration by the Board, that he be placed on administrative leave while the investigation continues. In accord with policy, an announcement would be made at Fr. Cronin's parish.

3. That a report on the interview with Fr. Cronin be made at the next CMOB meeting.

4. That further efforts be made to interview REDACTED

I concur in the recommendation —
+ Roger Card. Mahony
29 June 2004

cc: Monsignor Craig A. Cox

CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
ATTORNEY-CLIENT WORK PRODUCT

SYNOPSIS OF INVESTIGATION REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

In October 2003 the Archdiocese was notified through proper channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by REDACTED charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor student at Saint Monica's High School, Father Sean Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner.

Upon receipt of the above information, REDACTED was identified through a limited background investigation. On April 16, 2004, REDACTED was interviewed for nearly three hours in the presence of his attorney in Beverly Hills, CA, by canonical investigator REDACTED. At that time he provided details of sexual abuse allegations by Father Cronin when he was a seventeen year old senior in high school. He states the relationship started strictly for counseling regarding his family problems when his mother abandoned the family. Later the relationship became what REDACTED believed was a friendship. At that time Cronin took him out to dinner nearly once a week, bought him alcoholic drinks and took him back to Cronin's residences for counseling sessions. Later in these evening sessions he would provide REDACTED more alcohol, engage in sexual conversations, kissing on the cheek and finally on the mouth, while holding REDACTED gazing into his eyes, promising never to leave him as his mother did. He also states that Cronin took him to a movie with homosexual content. At their last meeting Cronin requested to view REDACTED genitals at which time REDACTED ended the meetings and the relationship. REDACTED states that he informed no one of these allegations until very recently. Three persons whose names were provided by REDACTED were interviewed and confirmed only that REDACTED was counseled by Cronin at Saint Monica's High School. One priest at St. Monica's recalled only that Cronin taught there and resided in the rectory. Complete details of REDACTED background data and the five-page interview report are contained in Cronin's file.

Synopsis- Father Sean Cronin

In October 2003 the Archdiocese was also notified tha REDACTED filed a lawsuit charging that when he was between eight and seventeen years of age, Father Cronin performed sexual acts including penetration and ejaculation on him in Saint Genevieve Church and rectory and Saint Monica's Church. A background investigation limited only to identifying him was conducted on REDACTED which is contained in Cronin's file. In March 2004 REDACTED attorney, who is also REDACTED attorney, informed an attorney for the Archdiocese that he would make REDACTED available for interview; however, after numerous additional requests has not done so. One priest at Saint Genevieve's Church was interviewed in a negative attempt to confirm these allegations.

REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED

REDACTED

CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
ATTORNEY-CLIENT WORK PRODUCT

SYNOPSIS OF INVESTIGATION REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

In October 2003 the Archdiocese was notified through proper channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by REDACTED charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor student at Saint Monica's High School, Father Sean Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner.

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REDACTED

REDACTED

From: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 9:29 AM

To: REDACTED

Subject: FW: My pain

REDACTED

The first of several transfers.

Craig

-----REDACTED

From

Sent: Friday, March 12, 2004 6:41 AM

To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

Subject: Fwd: My pain

Forward this to Father Sean Cronin.

REDACTED wrote:

> Date: Fri, 12 Mar 2004 06:23:49 -0800 (PST)
> FromREDACTED
> Subject: My pain
> T REDACTED
>
> Father Cronin,
>
> I can only imagine the pain and disappointment your other victim from St. Genevieve's must be going through. Let me tell you about mine.
>
> I warned you twenty four years ago to stay away from me. Remember that phone call ??? I also told you that you were very lucky I didn't go to my father, the church, or the police. You took advantage of my trust in you at a time when I was very vulnerable. You knew the circumstances surrounding my profound sadness from my parents divorce and the confusion I felt. I came to you for spiritual guidance and support. That's what my father always told me to do. He told me I could and should go to a priest.
>
> You know what happened. You know that you were grooming me for sex.
>
> Let me refresh your memory. Remember the dinners at the Azteca Restaurant ??? Remember ordering drinks for both of us ??? Remember kissing me on the lips and telling me that it wasn't unusual behavior with men in European cultures ??? Remember asking me about how often I masturbated ??? Remember telling me that you also masturbated ??? Remember the foreign film that we saw together in Santa Monica that you insisted I see ??? Remember the homosexual sex scenes ??? Remember how interested you were in my sex life with my girlfriend ??? Remember telling me that I shouldn't tell anybody else what we talk about ??? That they might not understand ??? Remember the Cognac we drank together at your residence ??? Remember

REDACTED

'Remember, remember, remember !!!

Father Cronin, my memory is very clear. How's yours ???

You can imagine how devastated I was when I read you had denied the allegations. Do you realize what that's done to me ??? Do you realize what it's done to my wife and children ??? Yes, I have two absolutely beautiful children who wonder why their father is so sad. They wonder why their father has become so angry. They wonder why he can't sleep at night. They wonder, Father Cronin, they wonder.

You owe it to me, my children, the church and yourself to tell the truth. Stop being the source of so many people's pain. You are an extremely selfish man. You're only interested in saving yourself and your reputation.

God will be your judge, Father Cronin. You must save yourself.

Tell your attorney no more denials. No more lying. No more hurting.

Please.

REDACTED

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Search - Find what you're looking for faster.

REDACTED

From: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 9:30 AM

To: REDACTED

Subject: FW: Father Sean Cronin

REDACTED

Second transfer.

Craig

-----Original Message-----
FromREDACTED
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2004 8:22 PM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Father Sean Cronin

Dear Msgr. Cox,

My attorney at REDACTED has begged me not to contact anybody at the Archdiocese. He told me that he would contact the attorneys from the Archdiocese so that we could arrange a controlled meeting, where I could tell my story. But Msgr., I've already told my story. I told my story to the Archdiocese, the LAPD, my attorney, and certain family members.

I don't care about lawyers anymore. I don't care about the legal system. I care about justice and I care about the church and I care about the fact that Father Sean Cronin is a liar. Perhaps it's the attorney's from the Archdiocese that are telling him to deny the allegations. I suspect I'm right. How can a Catholic priest deny due process ??? He knows the truth. How can he stand on the altar and say mass ??? Why do you allow this ??? You and the Archdiocese are pouring salt on our wounds !!!

Msgr. Cox, the truth will be revealed. Father Sean Cronin will be removed from active ministry. The burden will be on your shoulders and the shoulders of those who protected him.

Before you go rushing off forwarding this e-mail and my identity to the attorney's and the special investigator, let me save you some time. I'm a very credible man. I come from a REDACTED REDACTED I have a wife and two beautiful children, I have no criminal record, I have a AAA credit rating. Don't bother dragging me through the mud, you won't come up with anything damaging. What you might come up with, WILL work against the Archdiocese.

Msgr. Cox, THIS IS NOT ABOUT MONEY. This is about betrayal of trust. This is about putting an end to this awful truth that has plagued the church. This is about doing the right thing.

I am absolutely convinced that if you review Sean Cronin's personnel files, you will see a pattern. A disturbing pattern that might point towards something. I'm aware that the Archdiocese keeps two separate types of personnel files. The one's you hand over to the District Attorney, and the one's you keep in a cold, dark place that never see the light of day. Take a look at these REDACTED these over to the Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board.

And, Msgr., when it's all said and done, the finger may point in your direction. The finger will point out those who protected these men. That's what happened in Boston. Don't you people ever learn ???

I wish that, as men, we could keep this among ourselves. I'm not so naive. Go ahead, use this against me in a court of law. I will prevail. I'm on the side of truth. I have nothing to hide.

God is my witness.

Thank you.

REDACTED

REDACTED

From: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.

Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2004 9:31 AM

To: REDACTED

Subject: FW: I have an idea...

REDACTED

Last transfer. I do not know if he sent this to me deliberately or accidentally.

Craig

-----Original Message-----
From: REDACTED
Sent: Saturday, March 13, 2004 7:47 AM
To: Cox, Msgr. Craig A.
Subject: Fwd: I have an idea...

REDACTED

wrote:

> Date: Sat, 13 Mar 2004 07:25:57 -0800 (PST)
> From REDACTED
> Subject: I have an idea...
> To REDACTED

REDACTED

> I've had just enough of this bullshit the Archdiocese and Msgr. Cox and the whole gang are trying to pull. I'm seriously considering coming to Los Angeles and making some noise. I was hoping that REDACTED would be successful in setting up a meeting with the Archdiocese, but I haven't heard anything. I don't blame him, I know they're very busy on both sides.
>
> If I was to come to Los Angeles, would you be willing to go with me to Our Lady of Lourdes and protest ??? Could you guarantee that we could arrange a show of force ???
>
> Does SNAP usually alert the media before they take such actions ???
>
> I'm very, very concerned about parishioners having a negative reaction. I'm not a meek, humble man in the face of insults. I'm a big guy with a very hot temper at this point in time.
>
> What sort of protection does SNAP have during these protests ??? Can we insist that the LAPD be there to keep everybody in line ???

REDACTED I'll be leaving my wife, my children, my job and traveling a long distance at my expense.

> I want MAXIMUM impact and MAXIMUM exposure.
>
> I want Cronin gone.

Your thoughts.
REDACTED

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail - More reliable, more storage, less spam

LOS ANGELES TIMES CMOB-067-01

10 Priests in Lawsuits Still on Job

L.A. Archdiocese says it lacks evidence of abuse. Cases test limits of the 'zero tolerance' policy.

By WILLIAM LOBDELL AND JEAN GUCCIONE
Times Staff Writers

At least 10 priests in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles remain in parish ministry despite lawsuits filed late last year that accuse them of molesting children.

Among the priests are some of the archdiocese's most prominent clerics, including Msgr. Richard A. Loomis, former head of clergy who oversaw misconduct allegations against priests; Msgr. Patrick Reilly in Burbank; and Father Michael J. Carroll, who was voted Walnut's man of the year last week.

Church leaders justified their action by citing lack of evidence to support the allegations and, in some cases, their inability to interview the victims. Announcements of the accusations were made in the congregations of the priests last Sunday.

Each cleric has denied wrongdoing, and none are under criminal investigation.

The cases test the limits of the Vatican's "zero tolerance" policy against priestly miscon-

[See Church, Page A22]

Accused Priests' Status Pending Inquiries Murky

[Church, from Page A1]

duct and point to the conflicts the church faces in policing itself.

Archdiocesan spokesman Tod Tamberg said that although many past claims of sexual abuse have been credible, "not all allegations are true or immediately credible."

"And there are those that are demonstrably false," he said. "To take someone out of ministry when allegations are false or there is a severe lack of first- or even second-hand information is not only unjust to the person accused, it also diminishes the impact of those claims which are credible and true."

The archdiocese's stance has infuriated victims' advocates, who say that once again the church has put the protection of priests over the safety of children.

"The problem is not false allegations," said John Manly, a Costa Mesa attorney whose firm represents about 80 alleged victims of sexual abuse by priests. "The problem is child rape. When are the bishops going to get that through their thick ecclesiastical heads?"

The debate over how to treat the priests named in lawsuits comes as the archdiocese is also battling prosecutors and civil litigants over access to personnel files on accused priests.

The church has argued that the files are confidential and protected from disclosure by law; prosecutors insist that the documents are necessary to investigate possible criminal wrongdoing.

The priests still in active ministry are among about 200 Los Angeles-area clerics named in an avalanche of litigation in 2003.

The lawsuits were filed after California lifted for one year the statute of limitations for older cases of sexual abuse involving minors. About 500 people sued the Los Angeles Archdiocese last year, out of 800 suits statewide.

Asked about the accusations, Loomis, who was vicar for clergy from 1996 to 2000 said, "I have not done anything wrong."

Speaking of his accuser, he added, "I do not recall this person, and I did not molest him."

Similarly, Manuel Sanchez of Sacred Heart Church in Pomona said Friday that he did not even know his accuser. "I am completely innocent of the charges," the priest said. He said he learned of "this terrible accusation" six months ago and believed that his accuser was either "looking for money or he sincerely confused me with another person."

Another of the priests, James M. Ford of San Roque Church in Santa Barbara, said he was "shocked when I heard of this lawsuit." Ford said he was "deeply hurt by this allegation of 35 years ago. It's completely and absolutely false."

Edward Dober of Our Lady of the Rosary Church in Paramount released a statement denying the allegation. "The archdiocese did not find it credible, and there is no basis for the lawsuit," the statement said.

The other priests still on active ministry, each of whom denied the allegations personally or through an attorney, are Sean Cronin of Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Northridge, Walter Fernando of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Pasadena, Richard Martini of Transfiguration Church in Los Angeles and Samuel Orellana of Presentation of Mary Church, also in L.A.

In some cases, the status of the clerics facing allegations exposes a contentious and largely unexplored area of the church's zero-tolerance policy, which was adopted in 2002 and calls for removing priests against whom credible allegations of molestation have been made. The policy is silent about a cleric's status between the time an allegation is lodged and a church investigation is completed.

Should a priest, accused of a decades-old molestation, be immediately placed on administrative leave until an inquiry is complete? Or should he remain at his post until the church determines that there is sufficient evidence to remove him?

"In some cases, it's a very, very shaky allegation by someone who's not very credible," said Father Robert J. Silva, president of the National Federation of Priests' Councils. "On the other hand ... we want to be very sensitive to the victims."

Nor does the policy define "sufficient evidence," the standard of proof needed to remove a priest from ministry under the reformed policy.

Zero tolerance

Excerpts from the Catholic Church's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

ARTICLE 5. We repeat the words of our Holy Father in his address to the cardinals of the United States and conference officers: "There is no place in the priesthood or religious life for those who would harm the young."

When an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by a priest or a deacon is received, a preliminary investigation ... will be initiated and conducted promptly and objectively. If this investigation so indicates, the diocesan/eparchial bishop will both notify the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and ... relieve the alleged offender promptly of his ministerial duties.

Source: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

Los Angeles Times

"It all hangs on what's credible evidence, and that's up to interpretation," said Father Thomas J. Reese, editor of the Catholic weekly magazine America.

The 194 U.S. dioceses operate independently and report only to the Vatican. Some dioceses, New Orleans, for example, follow investigative procedures similar to those in Los Angeles. In others, including the Diocese of Orange, officials immediately place accused priests on administrative leave until inquiries are completed. Similar policies are in force in Seattle, Pittsburgh and Lafayette, La.

The Los Angeles Archdiocese's decision to keep accused priests in ministry has put further strain on the already acrimonious relationship between the church hierarchy and alleged victims and their advocates.

"I wouldn't trust the church to investigate anything," said Father Thomas P. Doyle, who cowrote a report to U.S. bishops in 1985 warning of problems with abusive priests. "From history, we'd know it's self-serving. They shouldn't be investigating; someone should be investigating them."

Victims' advocates say filing a lawsuit should provide enough evidence to justify placing a priest on leave. California law requires an independent therapist to attest to the merits of a plaintiff's allegations before a sexual abuse lawsuit can be filed. After that, a judge must decide if the suit has merit enough to proceed.

"One must convince both an attorney and a therapist before filing," said David Clohessy, executive director of the Survivors Network for Those Abused by Priests (SNAP). "So one could argue that church officials ought to give more weight and credence to an allegation that is publicly presented in civil courts over one that's privately presented in a church office."

SNAP members in Los Angeles plan to protest the archdiocese's policy Sunday at the parishes of the accused priests.

"Church officials don't believe the victims, the police, mental health professionals and judges," said Mary Grant, regional director of the group. "I don't believe church officials are in a dilemma. They know exactly what they are doing in stonewalling and protecting priests."

But others said that without hard evidence, placing a priest on administrative leave was fundamentally unfair and could lead to witch hunts.

"The way priests are investigated and handled and treated is unconscionable," said William Donohue, president of the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, a conservative group with 350,000 members. "Bishops protect themselves [from public outcry] at the expense of the accused priests. They are selling them down the river."

Attorney Donald Steier, who represents eight of the 10 accused priests still in Los Angeles Archdiocese parishes, said a single allegation of abuse — without corroborating evidence — shouldn't be enough to put a clergyman on leave.

"It doesn't appear that they are a current risk to anybody, so unless there is more to it, there's still a certain presumption [of innocence] in this country," he said. Steier said that the required psychological reports are filed under seal and that neither the archdiocese nor the priests can review them.

Some of the announcements read in the parishes of accused priests last weekend include the most detailed explanations of the abuse allegations made by the archdiocese to date.

In half the cases, parishioners were told that the archdiocese's Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board, which consists of 11 laypeople and two others, investigated and found no evidence of misconduct. In the other cases, the board did not recommend that the accusers be placed on administrative leave.

In a few cases, for instance, the archdiocese said it had been unable to interview the accuser and considered the allegations "hearsay in nature," lacking the kind of detail needed for the archdiocese to conduct a thorough investigation and for the priest to present a reasonable defense.

LES TIMES

Priests accused of abuse in lawsuits

These 10 Roman Catholic priests were accused of sexual abuse in civil lawsuits filed last year. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles has reviewed the allegations, and all remain in parish ministry.



Michael J. Carroll, pastor, San Lorenzo Ruiz Church, Walnut
Accused of molesting a teenage girl from 1967-71 at St. Anselm Parish in Los Angeles.
He denied the allegation. The Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles recommended he remain in the ministry.



Sean Cronin, associate pastor, Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Northridge
Accused of molesting two children between 1972 and 1980 while at St. Genevieve Parish in Panorama City and St. Monica Parish in Santa Monica.
He denied the allegations. The board recommended he remain in parish ministry pending further investigation.



Edward Dober, pastor, Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Paramount
Accused of fondling a boy at Queen of the Angels Junior Seminary in Los Angeles in 1990 and 1991.
He denied the allegations. The board found "no evidence of misconduct." Parishioners were told Dober had the archdiocese's "complete confidence."



Walter Fernando, associate pastor, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, Pasadena
Accused of molesting a woman in 1981 at St. Hilary Parish in Pico Rivera.
He denied the allegations. Los Angeles police said he made incriminating statements during a taped conversation with the alleged victim. The board recommended he remain in parish ministry and stated it had insufficient information to investigate.



James M. Ford, pastor, San Roque Church, Santa Barbara
Accused of molesting a teenager from about 1968 to 1971 at an unspecified parish in the city of Orange.
He denied the allegation. The board found it was "not appropriate" to place him on administrative leave "based on information currently available."



Msgr. Richard A. Loomis, pastor, Sts. Felicitas and Perpetua Church, San Marino
Accused of molesting a boy between 1969 and 1971 when he taught at a Los Angeles-area Catholic high school.
He denied the allegation. The board found "no credible evidence of misconduct has been presented to us." Parishioners were told that Loomis had the archdiocese's "complete confidence."



Richard Martini, pastor, Transfiguration Church, Los Angeles
Accused of fondling a boy at Queen of the Angels Junior Seminary in Los Angeles in 1990 and 1991.
He denied the allegations, and the board found "no evidence of misconduct." Parishioners were told Martini had the archdiocese's "complete confidence."



Samuel Orellana, associate pastor, Presentation of Mary Church, Los Angeles
Accused of misconduct in 1987 at Sagrado Corazon Parish in Compton.
He denied the allegation and said he did not remember the accuser. The board recommended he remain in the ministry pending further investigation.



Msgr. Patrick Reilly, pastor emeritus, St. Robert Bellarmine Church, Burbank
Accused of misconduct between 1980 and 1984 while at Sacred Heart Parish in Covina.
He denied the allegations. The oversight board found there was "no credible evidence of misconduct."



Msgr. Manuel Sanchez, pastor emeritus, Sacred Heart Church, Pomona
Accused of molesting a child in 1981 while pastor at Sacred Heart Parish in Pomona.
The board found that "the evidence did not support the charges."

Sources: Archdiocese of Los Angeles and lawsuits. Photos from Archdiocese of Los Angeles 2002 Catholic Directory.

Statement for Weekend Masses at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Northridge
January 31 – February 1, 2004
Regarding Reverend Sean Cronin

I am REDACTED of St. Joseph the Worker Parish and a Dean here in the San Fernando Region. Our Archbishop, Cardinal Roger Mahony, has asked that I make an important announcement here at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish this weekend.

As you know from news reports, many lawsuits seeking monetary damages were filed in the month of December that allege sexual abuse of minors on the part of different priests, brothers, nuns and laypersons working for the Church. These filings are public records, available to the media and to any other person who wishes to obtain the information.

You probably are not aware that your Associate Pastor, Reverend Sean Cronin, was named as a defendant in two of these lawsuits. We expect that there may be news reports referring to this lawsuit in the coming weeks. Both the Cardinal and Father Cronin wanted you to learn this information from us first rather than through secular news reports.

The alleged incidents relate to the period of approximately 1972 – 1980 when Father Cronin was serving at St. Genevieve's and St. Monica's parishes and schools. Up to this point, however, the complainants have not come forward to speak with us. As part of the court-ordered mediation process, complainants are to submit written responses to questions so that the Archdiocese would have some specific information about the nature of the claims. The complainants against Father Cronin have not yet done so. Thus, up to the present, the information available to us has been hearsay in nature and without the kind of detail that would enable the Archdiocese to conduct a thorough investigation, or to enable Father Cronin to present a reasonable defense.

When informed of the prospective lawsuits, Father Cronin firmly denied any sexually abusive conduct with the persons who filed the lawsuits or with any minor.

Our Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board, consisting of thirteen persons, eleven of whom are lay people, has the case of Father Cronin under consideration and has made recommendations for further investigation that are being actively pursued. As of its most recent meeting last Wednesday, however, the Board has <u>not</u> recommended that Father Cronin be placed on administrative leave. Up to this point, the limited nature of information has not provided sufficient credible evidence to justify placing him on leave.

Cardinal Mahony is committed to assuring that children and young people are safe. He has firmly pledged that, when it is determined that a priest has engaged in sexual misconduct with a minor, he will be permanently removed from ministry. That pledge has been implemented. The fact that a lawsuit has been filed, however, does not mean that Father Cronin has acted in an abusive fashion. All people, priests included, must be presumed innocent until there is proof to the contrary. At the same time, the Church takes allegations of this sort seriously -- precisely because we want to uncover the full truth and then act in accord with the truth. After all, Jesus himself stated that it is the truth that sets us free. Therefore, we will continue to seek all available information.

We also will continue to keep you informed of developments. Finally, I ask that you please pray for everyone involved -- people who have been harmed by sexual abuse, priests, and those conducting the investigations. Thank you for you kind attention. May God bless you!

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CMOB-067-01 - Sean Cronin

Current Assoc. Pastor
Anglo, Age 60, ordained 1973.

09/23/99 Yellow handwritten memo in file (?) regarding Fr.'s drinking, consulting Bishop Satoris who wanted it referred to V/C.

09/21/99 Interoffice memo fromREDACTED [Marymount] re complaint aboutREDACTED a sophomore, received a phone call from Fr. last week at 11:00 p.m. stating he heard that REDACTED was depressed and wanted REDACTED to know that he loved him. REDACTED felt his expression of love was inappropriate, thought Fr. had been drinking and is going to resign as asst. chaplain to put distance between himself and Fr.

Undated handwritten note cards in the file (Msgr. Loomis as V/C) listing 2-3 names of students, uncomfortable comments from Fr.

10/06/99 REDACTED

10/07/99 REDACTED REDACTED

10/07/99

10/11/99 Print out from the internet re: REDACTED
REDACTED

10/14/99 REDACTREDACTED REDACTED

10/19/99

10/22/99

10/25/99 REDACTED

10/26/99

10/27/99

10/29/99 Memo to Cardinal from V/C advising him that Fr. has retained a civil atty. After consultation, V/C suggests that the Cardinal send the attached ltr to Fr. re canonical supervision and car, and asking for a meeting.

10/29/99 Ltr. from Cardinal to Fr. requesting he come in for an appointment.

11/5/99 REDACTED

REDACTED

11/5/99	Copy of lengthy ltr from REDACTED to REDACTED, Fr.'s atty, acknowledging receipt of REDACTED ltrs of 10/22 and 11/1/99 – has been out of the country. Explains why V/C is in contact with Fr. (authorized under canon law), explains the power of re-assignment, church practice. Responded to 5 points in atty's ltr re: demand for written statement and documents, psychiatric evaluation of medication, unfounded allegation of alcohol abuse, pressures brought to bear on Fr. by V/C and REDACTED REDACTED REDACTED and reassignment.
11/8/99	Memo to V/C from REDACTED re appointment between Cardinal and Fr. on 11/22/99.
11/9/99	Notes from V/C on meeting with REDACTED relating to visit by one of the college trustees REDACTED supporting Fr. who had a copy of letter sent to Fr. outlining the five steps.
11/10/99	Handwritten letter of encouragement from Cardinal to Fr.
11/17/99	Memo to Cardinal from V/C recapping the situation in preparation for Cardinal's meeting with Fr. on 11/22.
11/20/99	Letter to Cardinal from REDACTED., Fr.'s doctor for ten years, explaining his relationship, his support of Fr. and Fr.'s medical conditions REDACTED
12/2/99	Ltr from REDACTED re conversation with REDACTED He has not been bothered by Fr.
12/6/99	Ltr from REDACTED to Fr. as follow up to meeting with REDACTED and giving him the name and address of REDACTED as a therapist.
01/07/00	REDACTEI REDACTED REDACTED
01/07/00	REDACTED
2/10/00	REDACTED
2/14/00	
6/15/00	

REDACTED

6/29/00

7/7/00

09/22/00

12/28/00

02/21/01

7/30/01

01/16/02

03/08/02

01/07/03 Memo to file from V/C (Cox) re phone call to Fr. from V/C advising him that his name appeared on a list among group of alleged perpetrators of sexual misconduct with minors prepared by attys – sketchy information points to allegations related to is time at St. Genevieve's from 1973-75 – first assignment. Fr. denied allegations.

10/2003 Copy of pages relating to Fr. from a list supplied by plaintiff's attorneys of alleged perpetrators of minor abuse:

REDACTED – St. Genevieve's 1968-77: Several times over the years in priest's chambers and at minor's parents home, would have minor take down his pants and Fr. took down his pants and ejaculated on minor; when minor was 17 yrs., while his girlfriend waited outside, Fr. ejaculated on him. At St. Monica's, oral copulation and Fr. masturbated him, simulated intercourse over minor's clothes.

REDACTED - St. Monica's 1979-82: Numerous times, Fr. provided alcohol, drugs & cigarettes; sexual talk, homosexual porno

movie, grooming behavior (dinners), hugging in sexual manner, kissing on the check and French kissing.

CMOB-067-01: "College Chaplain" - Anglo. assoc. pastor. age 60. ordained 1973. REDACTED REDACTED

REDACTED /. Therapy was offered to young men.REDACTED REDACTED In Jan.2003 when Fr. X appeared on attorney list of alleged perpetrators of minors with sketchy information; Fr. denied any misconduct. In Oct. 2003 a revised list included descriptions of allegations of serious abusive behavior with two minor boys, one alleging abuse from 1968-77 & the other from 1979-82. Investigation just initiated. No action taken as yet.

Additions to file:

11/12/03 Ltr to V/C from REDACTED at St. Genevieve's in response to V/C's request for information and explaining her search for records and enclosing documents.

11/17/03 Ltr. to REDACTED from V/C thanking her for the documents.

Documents: Cert. of Baptism of REDACTED 1960; School registration of REDACTED 1976; Sacrament First Holy Communion REDACTED 1968; Confirmation Certificate REDACTED 1974. [These are the two names listed on the atty's list of plaintiffs – minor abuse.]

12/01/03 Ltr to V/C from REDACTED on behalf of Fr. and that Fr. denies misconduct and requesting a copy of his file.

12/03/03 Ltr to REDACTED from V/C acknowledging letter and enclosing copy of file.

12/02/03 Handwritten ltr to V/C from Fr. advising him of his meeting with REDACTED and that a letter is being sent to V/C on his behalf. "I have no choice but to ask the Board not to act on this matter until further information is available and a proper response can be formulated. I categorically deny these allegations."

12/03/03 Ltr to Fr. from V/C thanking him for the letter and acknowledging receipt of REDACTED letter.

CONFIDENTIAL & PRIVILEGED
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
ATTORNEY-CLIENT WORK PRODUCT

SYNOPSIS OF INVESTIGATION REGARDING FATHER SEAN CRONIN

In October 2003 the Archdiocese was notified through proper channels that lawsuits were filed against the Archdiocese by REDACTED charging that from 1979 to 1982, when he was a minor student at Saint Monica's High School, Father Sean Cronin provided him with alcohol, pornography and engaged in kissing and hugging in a sexual manner.

Upon receipt of the above information, REDACTED was identified through a limited background investigation. On April 16, 2004, REDACTED was interviewed for nearly three hours in the presence of his attorney in Beverly Hills, CA, by canonical investigator REDACTED At that time he provided details of sexual abuse allegations by Father Cronin when he was a seventeen year old senior in high school. He states the relationship started strictly for counseling regarding his family problems when his mother abandoned the family. Later the relationship became what REDACTED believed was a friendship. At that time Cronin took him out to dinner nearly once a week, bought him alcoholic drinks and took him back to Cronin's residences for counseling sessions. Later in these evening sessions he would provide REDACTED more alcohol, engage in sexual conversations, kissing on the cheek and finally on the mouth, while holding REDACTED gazing into his eyes, promising never to leave him as his mother did. He also states that Cronin took him to a movie with homosexual content. At their last meeting Cronin requested to view REDACTED genitals at which time REDACTED ended the meetings and the relationship. REDACTED states that he informed no one of these allegations until very recently. Three persons whose names were provided by REDACTED were interviewed and confirmed only that REDACTED was counseled by Cronin at Saint Monica's High School. One priest at St. Monica's recalled only that Cronin taught there and resided in the rectory. Complete details of REDACTED background data and the five-page interview report are contained in Cronin's file.

Synopsis- Father Sean Cronin

In October 2003 the Archdiocese was also notified thaREDACTED filed a lawsuit charging that when he was between eight and seventeen years of age, Father Cronin performed sexual acts including penetration and ejaculation on him in Saint Genevieve Church and rectory and Saint Monica's Church. A background investigation limited only to identifying him was conducted on REDACTED which is contained in Cronin's file. In March 2004, REDACTED attorney, who is alsc REDACTED attorney, informed an attorney for the Archdiocese that he would mak REDACTED available for interview; however, after numerous additional requests has not done so. One priest at Saint Genevieve's Church was interviewed in a negative attempt to confirm these allegations.

REDACTED

MEMORANDUM

To: REDACTED REDACTED

From: Monsignor Richard Loomis

Date: June 18, 2002

Re: Special SAAB Meeting

The SAAB Board has a special meeting tomorrow. The <Final Draft> of the "Charter" is being copied for the meeting.

Also, the Cardinal would like the Board to review the attached material and make comments or suggestions. The Province (a group of dioceses loosely associated with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles) is looking at a review process to assure compliance with the national Norms, once they are approved by Rome.

- The memo to the bishops of the Province of Los Angeles
- The proposed Norms the bishops of the USA are sending to Rome
- The provincial review process for the Province of Saint Paul & Minneapolis

REDACTED ill make copies for the members.

' JUN 18 2002 15:26 FR ARCHIOCESE :REDACTED P.02

COPY

RIREDACTED

Archdiocese of Los Angeles | Office of the Archbishop (213) 637-7288 | 3424 Wilshire Boulevard | California 90010-2241

June 17, 2002

To: **Bishop Sylvester Ryan**
Bishop John Steinbock
Bishop Tod Brown
Bishop Gerald Barnes
Bishop Robert Brom

From: **Cardinal Roger Mahony**
Archbishop of Los Angeles + Roger Card. Mahony

Subject: **Provincial Accountability for the new Charter to Protect Children and Young People**

Now that we have successfully completed the work on the Charter and the Norms to Protect young people in the Church, I am writing to invite you to collaborate at the Provincial level to make certain that our accountability system is in place and at work beginning this fall.

I was quite impressed with the provincial process adopted by the Metropolitan Province of St. Paul in Minneapolis, and I would recommend that we use that particular model as our starting point. I think our best approach would be to invite members from our various Diocesan clergy abuse and misconduct review boards to come together and to help shape the accountability system for our own Metropolitan Province. The work which we did to set up review teams for financial purposes will serve us as a good example and model as well.

Secondly, you will note that Article 6 in the Norms requires us to have an appellate review board within the Metropolitan Province. I would recommend that the same group that helps us develop the accountability process also assist us with the review board. We would probably need to add a couple of canon lawyers to help with the appellate part of the process.

My recommendation is that we allow our various review boards some time during the summer to review the Charter and the Norms, and to help bring each Diocesan policy into conformity with what we have adopted nationally.

Sometime in September, we could then move forward with the provincial accountability and appellate work.

Thanks so very much for your willingness to work together on such an important task.

cc: Bishop Edward Clark
Bishop Thomas Curry
Bishop Joseph Sartoris
Bishop Gerald Wilkerson
Bishop Gabino Zavala
Bishop Jaime Soto
Bishop Dennis O'Neil
Bishop Gilbert Chavez

REDACTED

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Approved by USCCB on June 14, 2002, for recognitio *by the Holy See.*

Essential Norms for Diocesan/Eparchial Policies Dealing with Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Priests, Deacons, or Other Church Personnel

Preamble

On June 14, 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved a *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The charter addresses the Church's commitment to deal appropriately and effectively with cases of sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons, and other church personnel (i.e., employees and volunteers). The bishops of the United States have promised to reach out to those who have been sexually abused as minors by anyone serving the Church in ministry, employment, or a volunteer position, whether the sexual abuse was recent or occurred many years ago. They stated that they would be as open as possible with the people in parishes and communities about instances of sexual abuse of minors, with respect always for the privacy and the reputation of the individuals involved. They have committed themselves to the pastoral and spiritual care and emotional well-being of those who have been sexually abused and of their families.

In addition, the bishops will work with parents, civil authorities, educators, and various organizations in the community to make and maintain the safest environment for minors. In the same way, the bishops have pledged to evaluate the background of seminary applicants as well as all church personnel, who have responsibility for the care and supervision of children and young people.

Therefore, to ensure that each diocese/eparchy in the United States of America will have procedures in place to respond promptly to all allegations of sexual abuse of minors, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops decrees these norms for diocesan/eparchial policies dealing with allegations of sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons, or other church personnel.

Norms

1. These norms, after approval by the Apostolic See, constitute particular law for all the dioceses/eparchies of the United States of America. Two years after recognitio has been received, these norms will be evaluated.

2. Each diocese/eparchy will have a written policy on the sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons, or other church personnel. A copy of this policy will be filed with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops within three months of the effective date of these norms. Copies of any eventual revisions of the written diocesan/eparchial policy are also to be filed with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops within three months of such modifications.

3. Each diocese/eparchy will designate a competent assistance coordinator to aid in the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused when they were minors by priests, deacons, or other church personnel.

4. To assist the diocesan/eparchial bishop in his work, each diocese/eparchy will have a review board whose functions include

   A. The assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors by priests, deacons, and other church personnel in order to advise the diocesan/eparchial bishop on whether or not the allegations appear to be credible; the assessment will be communicated to the victim and accused; the board can act both retrospectively and prospectively on these matters;

   B. The review of the diocesan/eparchial policy and procedures for dealing with these allegations at least every two years in order to recommend to the diocesan/eparchial bishop any modifications, if appropriate; and

   C. The recommendation concerning fitness for ministry in particular cases.

5. The review board, established by the diocesan/eparchial bishop, will be composed of at least five persons of outstanding integrity and good judgment. The majority of the review board members will be lay persons who are not in the employ of the diocese/eparchy; but at least one member should be a priest, and at least one member should have particular expertise in the treatment of the sexual abuse of minors. The members will be appointed for a term of five years, which can be renewed.

6. Each province will establish an appellate review board, to be composed of at least five persons of outstanding integrity and good judgment. The majority of the members will be lay persons; but at least one member should be a bishop, and at least one member should be a canon lawyer. The appellate review board's function will be to offer—upon request by the bishop, the alleged victim, or the accused—its advice to the diocesan/eparchial bishop on the case (cf. norm 4A). The request must be made within fifteen (15) days after the alleged victim or the accused has been notified of the assessment of the initial review board. Within sixty (60) days of its receiving the request, the appellate review board's advice will be communicated to those involved.

7. When a credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor by priests, deacons, or other church personnel is made, the alleged offender will be relieved of any ecclesiastical

ministry or function. An investigation in harmony with canon law will promptly commence. The accused will be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel and will be promptly notified of the preliminary findings of the investigation.

8. If the credible allegation of sexual abuse of a minor involves a priest or deacon, the ordinary/hierarch will ask him to undergo appropriate medical and psychological evaluation and intervention, if possible.

9. Where sexual abuse by a priest or deacon is admitted or is established after an appropriate investigation in accord with canon law, the following will pertain:

   A. Diocesan/eparchial policy will provide that for even a single act of sexual abuse of a minor—past, present, or future—the offending priest or deacon will be permanently removed from ministry.

   B. In every case, the processes provided for in canon law must be observed, and the various provisions of canon law must be considered (cf. *Canonical Delicts Involving Sexual Misconduct and Dismissal from the Clerical State*, 1995; Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, May 18, 2001). These provisions may include a request by the priest or deacon for dispensation from the obligations of holy orders and the loss of the clerical state, or a request by his diocesan/eparchial bishop for dismissal from the clerical state even without the consent of the priests or deacons. For the sake of due process, the accused is to be encouraged to retain the assistance of civil and canonical counsel. When necessary, the diocese/eparchy will supply canonical counsel to a priest.

   C. If the penalty of dismissal from the clerical state has not been applied (e.g., for reasons of advanced age or infirmity), the offender is to lead a life of prayer and penance. He will not be permitted to celebrate Mass publicly, to wear clerical garb, or to present himself publicly as a priest.

10. The diocese/eparchy will report to the public authorities any allegation (unless canonically privileged) of sexual abuse of a person who is currently a minor and will cooperate in their investigation. It will cooperate with public authorities about reporting in cases when the person alleged to have been abused is no longer a minor. In every instance, the diocese/eparchy will advise and support a person's right to make a report to public authorities.

11. Before a priest or deacon is proposed to another diocese/eparchy for assignment, transfer, or residence, if there is anything in his background to indicate that he would be a danger to children or young people, an accurate and complete description of the priest's or deacon's record will be forwarded by his ordinary/hierarch to the local ordinary/hierarch of his new residence. This holds even if the priest or deacon will only reside in the local community of an institute of consecrated life or society of apostolic life (or, in the Eastern Churches, as a monk or other religious, in a society of common life according to the manner of religious, in a secular institute, or in another form of consecrated life or society of apostolic life).

12. Care will always be taken to protect the rights of all parties involved, particularly

those of the person claiming to have been sexually abused and the person against whom the charge has been made. When the accusation has proved to be unfounded, every step possible will be taken to restore the good name of the person falsely accused.

13. These norms will become particular law after *recognitio* is received from the Holy See.

THE PROVINCIAL REVIEW PROCESS OF THE METROPOLITAN PROVINCE OF ST. PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS
June 16, 2002

Among the many responsibilities entrusted to bishops as shepherds of their dioceses, we recognize that the Church asks us to preserve and repair the good order of the Church's ministry. We are to see to it that priests and others "correctly fulfill the obligations proper to their state" (canon 384). We are "to be watchful lest abuses creep into ecclesiastical discipline" (canon 392). In order to carry out our responsibilities in and for the Church, the bishops of the Province of Saint Paul and Minneapolis have wanted to find ways concretely and accountably to face the crisis surrounding clergy abuse of minors. We come together, voluntarily and unanimously, to affirm certain steps for the Catholic Church in the United States, to seek outside assistance for us in the Province, and to make certain commitments about each of our own dioceses.

As we listen to the concerns of our people, we look to the useful suggestions made nearly a decade ago to a general meeting of the Catholic Bishops of the United States. On November 14, 1994, the Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse presented Restoring Trust, Volume 1. In that document, the committee recommended: *That consideration be given to setting up a diocesan advisory body to evaluate periodically the effectiveness of the policy in place and to propose revisions as indicated.*

That pattern of openness, transparency and accountability is to be implemented in each of our dioceses, and the effectiveness of existing advisory bodies is to be reviewed. Furthermore, we propose surrounding our diocesan boards with other supports needed for full effectiveness. To that end, we implement a review process which contains three levels for national, provincial and diocesan review:

- Level I — Review of Principles (National)
  The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has clearly articulated a set of principles over against which each diocese's policies and procedures are to be measured. The principles emerge from the work of the Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse, Restoring Trust, and The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

- Level II — Review of Policy (Provincial)
  The written policies and procedures of each of the dioceses of our Province will be reviewed and validated at the provincial level to ensure compliance with the principles articulated, as above. This review and validation is to be performed by an independent Provincial Advisory Committee assembled from the people of the Province of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.

- Level III — Review of Practices (Diocesan)
  At the diocesan level, independent auditors are to review the processes followed. Such a review will happen on a regular basis and its results will be widely published. It will ensure that each diocese implements the approved policy for sexual misconduct and the outlined procedures for identifying, reporting and responding to misconduct allegations.

REDACTED
REDACTED

LEVEL I - Review of Principles (National)

The first level of the process provides accountability by articulating principles from the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Abuse of the USCCB to guide the rest of the process. This Level I review is completed by the Office for Child and Youth Protection of the USCCB and by the National Review Board. They articulate principles that:

1. Draw on their own expertise, the National Commission, and examples from other churches. religious communities, and professions, and

2. Where appropriate, reflect the 1992 Five Principles to Follow in Dealing with Accusations of Sexual Abuse and other documents of the USCCB such as Diocesan Policies on Dealing with Sexual Abuse of Minors, and Restoring Trust, Volume I, and The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People, and

3. Offer guidance for procedures to ensure compliance of the local policies with the principles outlined by the USCCB, such as the procedure described below or others, and

4. Provide for regular public accounting of compliance with the principles at the national and diocesan levels, as well as a mechanism for updating the principles as needed.

LEVEL II - Review of Policy (Provincial)

The second level of the process provides public assurance that the policy in each diocese of the Province of Saint Paul and Minneapolis adheres to the national principles and that it is reviewed every five years. A Provincial Advisory Committee with representatives well known for their ethical and professional leadership, will be appointed for the Province by the Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis with the consent of the majority of the suffragan bishops, for a term of 5 years; the first terms staggered. This gender balanced committee shall consist of no less than ten members, representing a variety of professions, vocations, and those that may have been directly affected by sexual misconduct or abuse. The Provincial Advisory Committee shall:

1. Assess the written policies and established procedures of each diocese for compliance with the national principles; and

2. Assess the written policies and established procedures of the diocese for compliance with applicable civil laws in the state of origin; and

3. Consider additional input regarding the effectiveness of diocesan victim advocacy programs, monitoring procedures, diocesan training programs, and parish compliance of diocesan policies gained from an advisory/review board in each diocese of the Province so as to make recommendations for improvement; and

4. Propose revisions as necessary to provide clarity, additional recommendations and/or changes to ensure that appropriate and realistic process and follow-up are available to alleged victims and perpetrators; and

5. Offer further recommendations to the Provincial Bishops for revisions to this process.

The results of all of the above are to be arrived at through a genuinely autonomous process and are to be widely publicized.

LEVEL III - Review of Practices (Diocesan)

The third level of the process is to be carried out by an objective outside firm or group with members experienced in human resource monitoring programs. Financing for this monitoring firm or group is to be provided by each of the dioceses in the Province. The firm or group secured to complete the monitoring or audit will:

1. Validate that the current policies and procedures of the diocese have complied with and completed the review processes for Levels I and II and appropriate reports are on file: and

2. Assess the effectiveness of the implementation of established policies and procedures by the Bishop of each diocese and the designated diocesan personnel charged with the responsibility of dealing with both allegations and cases of sexual misconduct within the diocese; and

3. See that procedures are in place for training clergy, employees and volunteers of diocesan and parish institutions regarding the approved written policies and procedures relating to sexual misconduct and that proper documentation guarantees completion of this training; and

4. Provide a regular written report which validates that the policies and procedures in place are followed appropriately, through rating indicators and evidence of compliance. at the diocesan level. This report is submitted to the Bishop of the Diocese and the Archbishop of the Province, or in the case of the Archdiocesan review, to the senior suffragan Bishop of the Province; and

5. Offer an annual oral review of the written report which documents compliance, specific deficiencies and findings or recommendations to the Bishop of the Diocese, the Vicar General, the Board of Consultors, the Diocesan Presbyteral and Pastoral Councils; and

6. Provide a reporting instrument to respond to identified deficiencies and recommendations, outlining process steps followed, to be compliant within three months of the date of the report; and

7. Outline appeal procedures to be used in the event that there are disagreements regarding recommendations or specific findings; and

8. Communicate results of the diocesan audit process to the people of the diocese through the diocesan newspaper, using an official summary statement, listing of recommendations, and follow-up response for compliance by the monitoring firm or group; and

9. Offer recommendations for improvements to this process.

Adoption and Implementation

This Provincial Review Process of the Metropolitan Province of St. Paul and Minneapolis shall be adopted as of July 1, 2002. The means for selecting the members of the Provincial Advisory Committee, and diocesan monitoring/audit firms or groups shall be determined by October 1, 2002, and in place by December 1, 2002. The first provincial review process for the Province shall be completed no later than October 1, 2003 and regularly thereafter.